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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1846.

[SIXPENCE.]

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH.

THE purpose of the Speech delivered from the Throne at the opening of the Session of Parliament is to shadow forth, in general terms, the direction and tendency of the leading Legislative measures to be brought forward by the Ministers of the Crown. It is not intended that the Sovereign should enter into details, or allude to specific points of those measures; any expression of opinion on the part of the Crown, in anticipation of the discussions on the several portions of a great plan or scheme of policy, would appear like dictation, and be, in fact, an infringement of that perfect liberty of debate which is one of the highest privileges of the Commons of England. The general style in which Royal Speeches are drawn up is often made the subject of censure; but there is a Constitutional reason for it, and, though that generality has sometimes been allowed to fall into vagueness and obscurity, yet, of late years, this fault has been avoided, and the people have derived from the Royal Address a pretty clear intimation of the course of policy to be pursued on public affairs. The Address of her Majesty to the assembled Lords and Commons, on Thursday last, is a very fair specimen of these State documents: details we cannot gather from it, but the direction of the "Movement" is pretty clearly perceptible. We subjoin it here.—

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"It gives me great satisfaction again to meet you in Parliament, and to have the opportunity of recurring to your assistance and advice.

"I continue to receive from my allies, and from other Foreign Powers, the strongest assurances of their desire to cultivate the most friendly relations with this country.

"I rejoice that, in concert with the Emperor of Russia, and through the success of our joint mediation, I have been enabled to adjust the differences which had long prevailed between the Ottoman Porte and the King of Persia, and had seriously endangered the tranquillity of the East.

"For several years a desolating and sanguinary warfare has afflicted the states of the Rio de la Plata. The commerce of all nations has been interrupted, and acts of barbarity have been committed, unknown to the practice of a civilized people. In conjunction with the King of the French, I am endeavouring to effect the pacification of those states.

"The convention concluded with France in the course of the last year, for the more effectual suppression of the slave trade, is about to be carried into immediate execution by the active co-operation of the two Powers on the coast of Africa.

"It is my desire that our present union, and the good understanding which so happily exists between us, may always be employed to promote the interests of humanity, and to secure the peace of the world.

"I regret that the conflicting claims of Great Britain and the United States, in respect of the territory on the north-western coast of America, although they have been made the subject of repeated negotiation, still remain unsettled.

"You may be assured that no effort, consistent with national honour, shall be wanting on my part to bring this question to an early and peaceful termination.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"The estimates for the year will be laid before you at an early period. Although I am deeply sensible of the importance of enforcing economy in all branches of the expenditure, yet I have been compelled by a due regard to the exigencies of the public service, and to the state of our naval and military establishments, to propose some increase in the estimates which provide for their efficiency.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"I have observed with deep regret, the very frequent instances in which the crime of deliberate assassination has been of late committed in Ireland.

"It will be your duty to consider whether any measures can be devised calculated to give increased protection to life, and to bring to justice the perpetrators of so dreadful a crime.

"I have to lament that, in consequence of a failure of the potato crop in several parts of the United Kingdom, there will be a deficient supply of an article of food which forms the chief subsistence of great numbers of my people. The disease by which the plant has been affected has prevailed to the greatest extent in Ireland.

"I have adopted all such precautions as it was in my power to adopt for the purpose of alleviating the sufferings which may be caused by this calamity; and I shall confidently rely on your co-operation in devising such other means for effecting the same benevolent purpose, as may require the sanction of the Legislature.

"I have had great satisfaction in giving my assent to the measures which you have presented to me from time to time calculated to extend commerce and to stimulate domestic skill and industry by the repeal of prohibitory and the relaxation of protective duties.

"The prosperous state of the revenue, the increased demand for labour, and the general improvement which has taken place in the internal condition of the country, are strong testimonies in favour of the course you have pursued.

"I recommend you to take into your early consideration whether the principles on which you have acted may not with advantage be yet more extensively applied, and whether it may not be in your power, after a careful review of the existing duties upon many articles, the produce or manufacture of other countries, to make such further reductions and remissions as may tend to ensure the continuance of the great benefits to which I have adverted, and, by enlarging our commercial intercourse, to strengthen the bonds of amity with Foreign Powers.

"Any measures which you may adopt for effecting these great objects will, I am convinced, be accompanied by such precautions as shall prevent permanent loss to the revenue, or injurious results to any of the great interests of the country.

"I have full reliance on your just and dispassionate consideration of matters so deeply affecting the public welfare.

"It is my earnest prayer that with the blessing of Divine Providence on your councils, you may be enabled to promote friendly feelings between different classes of my subjects, provide additional security for the continuance of peace, and to maintain contentment and happiness at home, by increasing the comforts and bettering the condition of the great body of my people."

Passing over the allusions to the friendly relations of this country with Foreign Powers, and the notices of negotiations closed or progressing, the first striking paragraph is that containing the reference to our Oregon dispute with the United States. We gather from it a determination fully to assert the "national honour" in the question; and it may be taken as an assurance that from the just claims of this country there will not be the slightest departure.

The increase in our Military forces plainly intimated, may be in some degree a consequence of the preceding paragraph; but the immense extent of our foreign possessions, and the duty they impose on our troops, have long rendered such a step all but inevitable.

We next gather that measures of stringency are in preparation for those districts in Ireland where the assassin seems to murder with impunity. It is an acknowledgment that, after a long trial, the ordinary powers of the law are found insufficient for the preservation of peace. Let us hope the Legislature will go deeper than this; the dreadful effects of discontent must be repressed, but there should be also an attempt to remedy the causes of such social disorder.

It is the remaining portion of the Royal Speech that, at this moment, possesses the greatest importance. The "satisfaction" expressed at the result of the past relaxations of the prohibitive and protective system, results described as a "prosperous state of the Revenue, the increased demand for labour, and the general im-

provement which has taken place in the internal condition of the country," is the prelude and introduction to that intimation of a farther progress in the same direction, which the public has been led to expect would be made. Parliament is recommended to take into its "early consideration" a yet more extensive application of the same principles. And on Monday evening the Premier submits the plan that it must consider.

We gather from the Speech that it will not be by any means limited to the Corn Laws; it will embrace "many articles, the produce or manufacture of foreign countries;" it is more than probable that the proposition will be bolder and more comprehensive than the Tariff of 1842. But so near the time of certainty speculation is needless. We may remark, however, that it appears singular the great topic, the Corn Laws, should not be expressly mentioned, or alluded to.

Whatever may be the differences hereafter excited, sure we are that every man will heartily respond to the prayer with which her Majesty concludes her gracious Address, that the Councils of our Legislators may "promote friendly feelings between different classes of my subjects, provide additional security for the continuance of peace, and to maintain contentment and happiness at home, by increasing the comforts and bettering the condition of the great body of my people."

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

THE present Session of Parliament is the last that will sit in the remains—the patched-up ruins—of the old Houses of Legislation. It is generally supposed that one branch of it, the Peers, will, in the ensuing Session, be accommodated in the new edifice that so grandly flanks the "silent highway," even if the more numerous section, the Commons, have to wait yet another year. The impatience of



THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—CARRIAGE PORCH OF THE VICTORIA TOWER.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

the Peers themselves, has somewhat hastened the application of their part of the building to its final purpose. Lord Brougham, assuming the office of spokesman of the malcontents, has, on more than one occasion, drawn lamentable pictures of his own sufferings from the cold in the day, during the hearing of appeals, and the intense heat in the night, while attending debates; the alternations being so severe as to rank only next in degree to the same punishment as described in Dante's "Inferno;" he was joined by others in testimonies partaking more or less of the pathetic; and, though the Lord Chancellor, so comfortably "wrapped, and thoroughly lapped" in the robes of office, did somewhat gibe and jeer at the comparative nakedness of Brougham and Campbell, in respect to that kind of investiture to the lack of which he rather slyly attributed their greater chilliness, yet, certain it is, that the inconvenience and discomfort of the present House of Lords are considerable. And it is nearly, if not quite, equalled in these respects by the House of Commons.

To the occasional visitor this is not so apparent as to the members of those bodies. To the eye of the stranger nothing can exceed the appearance of comfort presented by the interior of the House of Lords. The soft carpeting, the well-cushioned benches, the padded doors that open and shut so noiselessly, the draped windows, the solid-looking woollens, and the warm colour (scarlet) of everything the eye falls upon, give a feeling of warmth and luxury. There is no noise of footsteps, for the tread is on a material whose softness returns no echo. All is ease, quiet, and dignified composure; the spirit of the place even extends to its occupants. With occasional exceptions, and those only on extraordinary subjects, the manner of conducting the debates and business of the Lords wears the character of a drawing-room conversation; the rules are not so strict, nor by any means so strictly enforced, as in the Commons. Their Lordships are collectively the conservatives of "order;" there is no one watchful and presiding eye and ear to note every departure from it, and check it instantly; and, as "everybody's business is nobody's," scenes of very gentlemanly and well-bred confusion are of frequent occurrence, several noble Lords speaking at once or trying to do so, or one speaking several times on the same question—an enormity never permitted for an instant in the Lower House. All this gives an air of private life, ease, and freedom to the whole place, which is greatly assisted by the limited size of the apartment devoted to the "Pillars of the State." The library or dining-room of many a noble Lord is far more spacious, and bears a richer air of state, than the hall in which the Aristocracy of Great Britain assemble round the Throne of Majesty.

But, with all its appearance of ease and comfort, the place is, after all, but a patch up and a make shift. It is like the new piece upon the old garment; it has neither the convenience, the space, and the applicability to its purpose of a modern building, nor has it the grand and venerable aspect of antiquity. You see that it was run up to meet the necessity of the hour; like much of the policy of the time, it hides, but does not improve, the work of the past, and is not solid enough to reach into the future. The hand of the tradesman is more visible than that of the architect or the artist; the predominating influence of the place is that of the upholsterer; even the oak panelling is the work of the paper-maker—is, with all reverence be it spoken, a delusion and a sham. We are reconciled to all this when we reflect that the building was meant to be temporary only. What is meant merely for a few years it would be absurd to build for centuries; but the defects of such a building are so many, that they naturally cause some anxiety to get out of it as soon as may be.

The House of Commons is, of course, of the same date as the House of Peers, subsequent to the "Great Fire." Nothing of it is old but the shell, formed of the blackened and tottering walls left by that conflagration. Within them the present chamber was built, and in one respect there is less incongruity about it than the Upper House; not the least attempt has been made to throw a spice of the Gothic into the fittings up; the Peers have some faint and sickly approaches to that style, but the Commons have adopted the pure parish vestry-room order, in all its native ugliness. The Peers have at least provided for the eye a rich and warm mass of colour; the Commons have found no need of such vanity. All is plain to excess; a plain matting on the floor; plain painted wooden benches, with very plain green leather cushions; two plain galleries, resting on plain iron pillars, and a plain clock, which has certainly the merit of very plainly showing the time, thus leaving no excuse to those who occupy more than their share of it. Around, above, beneath, all is the perfection of homeliness and common-place; there is not one spot that attracts the eye as to a point by any variation from the general Quaker-like hue, except, perhaps, the Mace, and those mysterious red boxes at either end of it, which have never been opened in the memory of the oldest inhabitant of those localities. A more uninviting, uninteresting apartment it would be impossible to find in the Three Kingdoms. We have seen many a Council-room in a provincial borough far superior to it: the Council-chamber in the Guildhall of the City of London, compared with it, is as one of the palaces of the art-loving Medici to the board-room of a Union Workhouse.

But, if the eye has been less consulted than in the Lords, in other respects the Lower Chamber may claim a superiority. It is more used, and by greater numbers. The larger attendance of members, and their longer sittings, have compelled them, in self-defence, to adopt a better system of heating and ventilation. Though improvement is possible in both respects, yet, on the whole, the plan adopted succeeds in securing a great amount of comfort, both in the degree of the temperature and the purity of the atmosphere—Mr. Wakley to the contrary notwithstanding. We do not know any apartment of the same size, in which so many could meet at once and remain so long, with so little inconvenience, as in the House of Commons.

As far as mere utility goes, nothing is gained to a Senate or Legislature by the splendour of its place of meeting. The real power of the British Parliament is greater than that of all the deliberative bodies that have sat amid the gorgeousness of the Palaces of Venice or Florence. It deals with greater revenues, and governs a wider empire than were ever yet found united under one sceptre. Englishmen think nothing of the meanness and poverty of the present seat of this powerful Assembly. It is the national character to avoid display: we like to be rich rather than to seem so; and when a temporary shelter was being formed for the Legislature, it would have been out of the question to have lavished upon it the resources of architecture and painting. It is only when we observe Foreigners within its walls that we feel somewhat humiliated by the comparison we know they must make between the splendour, external and internal, of their public edifices, and the meanness of ours. Let any one run his eye along the whole fabric that extends from the corner of Palace Yard to the entrance of the House of Lords—a space that includes the Courts where our laws are administered, and the Chambers of Legislation; yet what a miserable spectacle of dilapidation, made more unsightly by repairs, does much of it present. Who, when looking at it, does not wish to hasten the time when we shall see completed that magnificent pile that is to supersede it? In that the architect has raised for ages to come, an edifice in which, as in our noble Constitution, old forms and principles are adapted to modern requirements, enlarged and extended rather than changed. The present mean and unsubstantial chambers will soon disappear like the fancies of a dream, and their occupants will take up their abode in what will be their "abiding city." And while the last Session is opening that will see the whole of our

Legislature sitting amid the ruins of its ancient halls, it is a fair opportunity of giving a slight sketch of our present defects, while anticipating a future, in which all that the arts can do will be called forth to give BEAUTY and SPLENDOR to the seat and centre of POWER!

PRESENT STATE OF THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

At the opening of another Session of Parliament, it will, doubtless, be interesting to our readers to be in possession of the present state of the New Houses of Parliament, or, as they are now officially styled, "Westminster New Palace." With this impression, by the courtesy of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, and of the architect, Mr. Barry, we have obtained admission to the Works, a privilege now, of necessity, somewhat restricted. Taking, therefore, in our hand, the amended plan, engraved in No. 74 of THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, we have made a *détour* of the progressing pile, and proceed to submit the results of the visit to our readers. We may, however, first mention that the above Plan has more than once been referred to in Parliament, as the most correct that has been published; and, in our comparison of it with the portions executed, we have scarcely found any deviation.

With regard to the building itself, no very considerable advance has been made with the external works since the Architect's Report, dated Jan. 3, 1845. The centre and curtain portions of the River Front were then roofed in. The East and West Wings have also since been roofed; and have mostly received the Turrets and Pinnacles surmounting them; with the exception of the extreme tower abutting on Westminster-bridge. Our Artist has engraved one of the Towers in this, the East Wing, entire, and in detail, as a specimen of the elaborate beauty of the sculptural enrichment. The enlarged details are:—1. A Pinnacle and weather vane. 2. A portion of the pierced embattled parapet and upper tracery of windows. 3. An upper window, complete. 4. Panels above the lower windows. The Royal Arms, supported by Justice and Mercy; the side panels bearing mottoes, intertwined with the rose, thistle, and shamrock. 5. Canopied niches, from the lower story. 6. Panels between other stories in the wing.

A glance at the entire Tower will convey to the reader some idea of the skill of the architect in picturesque combinations of some of the most beautiful details of the architectural and sculptural decorations of the later or Perpendicular style. The highly enriched panels of the main tower are admirably relieved by the blanks of the turrets, in their turn, surmounted by crocketed caps, with richly-gilt vanes. Then, too, how are the central canopied niches and their statues set off by their flanking panels; and the badges beneath the third story windows aid the effect of the more important heraldic richness displayed below. The statues, or rather statuettes by the way, are beautifully executed: they number crowned sovereigns, mitred churchmen, and saintly women,—and are clever impersonations of historical character.

Of the completed River Front, we shall only observe that it has been greatly improved by the addition of a central Tower to the original plan.

On the land side, the principal portion completed is that which will form the north side of New Palace-yard, or the intended quadrangle. It may be as well here to state that, according to the Architect's Plan, as submitted to the Courts of Law and Equity Committee, "he intends to inclose New Palace-yard entirely by a range of building on its north side, extending from the Clock Tower to the end of Bridge-street; and by another on the west side, along Margaret-street, as far as the south end of Westminster Hall; between which two new ranges of building the north-west angle will be cut off by a deep and spacious gateway, leading into the quadrangle (260 by 170 feet) in front of the Hall. That this will be a very great improvement cannot be doubted, because that

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

There is nothing of striking interest in the French papers. They indulge in conjectures as to the course about to be pursued by Sir Robert Peel in regard to the Corn-laws; and most of them are of opinion, that the right hon. Baronet will not be able to carry their repeal. The Parisian journalists also discuss the Oregon question, which they consider to be fraught with difficulty, if not danger to England.

The debate in the Chamber of Peers, which was an unusually protracted one, concluded on Friday (last week), when the Chamber divided, and there appeared—

For the address	120
Against it	23
Majority for Ministers	—97

The minority being but 23, shows that Ministers have, irrespectively of the large creation of Peers since last session, gained upon their opponents, for as many as 40 Peers divided against Government upon different occasions last year, while the tone of the late debate proves that the Opposition fought with unabated bitterness.

The *Moniteur* announces that the first section of the Northern Railroad, between Paris and Pontoise, will be opened in a few days; the second section, from Pontoise to Clermont, and from the latter to Amiens, in the month of May; and the remainder, from Amiens to Lille, in June. According to the same journal, the opening of the Orleans and Tours line will take place in March; that of the atmospheric road, from Nanterre to St. Germain, in the first days of May; and that of Orleans and Vierzon probably in August. The section of the Paris and Lyons Railway between Dijon and Chalons, and that of the Pals and Strasburg line between Hommarling and Strasburg, will be terminated this year.

The Chamber of Deputies has discussed the project of law relative to the grant of 93,100,000fr. to the Minister of Marine, for the purpose of placing the French navy in a "normal" state, and supplying the arsenals with matériel. The Minister of Marine lately laid before the Chambers a report to the King respecting the position of the fleet and arsenals. It results from that document that in the space of seven years, in consideration of the above grant, the fleet will be composed of 270 sailing vessels (30 of them upon the stocks), and 100 steamers afloat. The Chambers in general approved the measure.

A grand review took place in the Champs de Mars on Saturday, in honour of the Morocco Ambassador. Troops to the number of 45,000 men were assembled on the occasion, and the Duke de Nemours commanded. The Duke de Montpensier was at the head of the Artillery. The Prince of Joinville, the Duke d'Anjou, the Prince of Wurttemberg, and the Prince of Salerno were also present. The Ambassador and his suite were mounted on beautiful Arabian horses, from the Royal stables. Their appearance, which is a great novelty to the Parisians, attracted great notice and admiration. The manoeuvres were directed by the Duke de Nemours in person. One of the manoeuvres was a representation of Marshal Bugeaud's army at the battle of Isly.

On Saturday night, the Chancellor, Duke Pasquier, with a deputation from the Peers, presented to Louis Philippe, the address of that Chamber, in reply to the Royal speech. His Majesty made the following reply:—

"Messieurs les Pairs.—It is with happiness that I see how many fresh motives every year that elapses affords for the congratulations which you have so long addressed to me at the opening of the sessions on the progress of public prosperity. It is to the co-operation you have so constantly and so effectually afforded to my Government—it is to the accord of all the powers of the State, that is due, this happy result, the progressive continuation of which everything predicts. I find again with great satisfaction in this address the expression of the sentiments of the Chamber of Peers for my family and myself; in telling it how much we appreciate them, I have to repeat that we shall ever respond to them by our entire devotedness to France."

The news from Algeria continues extremely unfavourable. The *Moniteur* contains a despatch of the 22nd of December, from Major-General Levasseur, *ad interim* commandant of the division of Constantine, detailing an expedition he has just effected at the head of 2000 infantry and 250 cavalry, in order to check the progress of an insurrection in that hitherto quietest part of the French possessions. It had originated in the Hodna, and extended to another district, the Belezma. General Levasseur states that he has captured from the insurgent tribes as much grain as two thousand mules could carry; and adds, "that if the punishment has been a severe one, it had become necessary, in order to check the progress of an insurrection which threatened to invade the whole province." The formidable attitude that Abd-el-Kader has again assumed in the west of Algeria is further proved by the fact of his having reorganised his government on the same footing as before his retreat to Morocco. The *Algérie* gives the names of the khalifas he has appointed to the districts of Titeri, Milianah, &c., and of the kaidas whom they have placed at the head of a large number of tribes stationed between Teniet-el-Had, Tiarret, and Orleansville.

Baron Lombard, peer of France, died at his estate of St. Symphonien, in the department of the Isere, in the 85th year of his age, on the 14th instant. M. Lombard was the last of the members of the States of Dauphiné who took so active a part in the movement of 1793. He was the friend of Barnave and Mounier, to whose doctrines he remained faithful to his last hour.

SPAIN.

Accounts from Barcelona of the 13th instant bring the important intelligence of a rising in the "Ampurdan," in the province of Gerona, and General Breton has, in consequence, set out with the utmost haste for that district; a division of the army, consisting of 3000 men, having previously marched in the same direction. Report says that the insurrection has been caused by a band of armed refugees, who entered Spain from France, and who are the same young men whom the coercive measures of the Captain General some time ago in the mountain districts forced to abandon their homes, and pass into France to evade the conscription.

WEST INDIES.

ARRIVAL OF THE WEST INDIA MAIL.—The *Dee* arrived on Tuesday from the West Indies. She left Demerara December 19th, Trinidad 23rd, Barbadoes 24th, Granada 27th, Jamaica 24th, and St. Thomas 31st. There is no news of im-

portance from Jamaica or the other islands. Prospects for the next crops are favourable; the railway is progressing admirably, it is earning treble the amount of expenses. Jamaica was very healthy, but rain was much wanted in some parts. Intelligence had been received at Jamaica from Hayti by her Majesty's ship *Pickle*, that a serious disturbance had arisen between the French Consulate and the Governor, and that great insult, if not violence, had been offered to the representative of the French nation. The Haytian fleet was expected at Porto Plata on the 1st of January, at which place, however, there were five war schooners to receive them, while five more were expected from St. Domingo. A Spanish fleet, consisting of two frigates, a brig, and four schooners, with the steamer *Basan*, of five heavy guns, have, on the other hand, proceeded towards Cape Hayti, for the protection of Spanish vessels.

The aspect of affairs altogether in Hayti appears most gloomy; and there is little doubt that a crisis must soon arise. Bernard Malvon, Esq., stipendiary magistrate of St. Andrew's, had been seized with paralysis, and was in a dangerous state.

THE RIVER PLATE.

Accounts have reached us from Monte Video to November 22d. A barque had arrived from Colonia on the 21st, which announced that the Merchant company which was there, had received orders to ascend the Parana which commanded the river, the batteries having been destroyed by the squadrons of France and England. The packet *Spider*, which was expected at Monte Video, from Buenos Ayres, on the 23d, would, it was hoped, bring the particulars of the attack.

The expedition from Maldonado and Santa Theresa, sailed from Monte Video on the 23d October, under the orders of Colonel Fueno.

Letters from the Uruguay state that Guraibaldic (the commander of the Monte Videan squadron) was in communication with General Paz, and that Colonel Berez had joined the latter at Salto, with 700 men. It was also said, that Urquiza had entered Entre Rio at the pass of the Vacass, and that he had effected a junction with Colonel Garzon.

Paraguay had declared war against the Dictator.

ARRIVAL OF THE OVERLAND MAIL.

INDIA.

The Overland Fortnightly Mail arrived on Monday, bringing news from Calcutta to the 7th, and from Bombay to the 16th of December. Although of a somewhat negative character, the intelligence is of importance. The Sikh soldiers, who term themselves "Lions," or "Sings," had assumed a very threatening aspect towards the English. Their proceedings had given rise to a misunderstanding between Sir Henry Hardinge and Sir Hugh Gough. It is said to have arisen out of the precipitate manner in which Sir Hugh Gough ordered up certain regiments to the frontier—a proceeding which could not fail to be interpreted into a determination to pass the Sutledge immediately.

The Sikh soldiers had come down to the banks of the Sutledge, and there threatened to invade the British dominions; but the latest intelligence received at Bombay, on the 15th of December, does not show that they had realised their intentions. When their approach to the frontier was known, troops were ordered to move from Umballa to Ferozepore; but the Governor-General, who was hastening into the north-west, on hearing of the chances of the collision, suddenly countermanded the march of those British regiments, which were composed of Her Majesty's army as well as of the native troops. The Governor General and the Commander-in-Chief met near the frontiers, at Kurnaul, on the 26th of November, and their meeting was far from being an agreeable one, for the former was not pleased with the march of the troops towards Ferozepore, and he told Sir Hugh Gough, as it is reported, that even if there was a necessity for invading the Punjab, he (Sir Hugh Gough) was not to command the invading army. It was expected that the Commander-in-Chief would proceed to Calcutta to take his seat in Council.

The chief apparent cause of the actual dispute arises from some treachery on the part of the Rajahs of the protected Sikh states on the left bank of the Sutledge, which states were saved 36 years ago from being merged into the then encroaching kingdom of Runjeet Singh by the intervention of the British; and, for which good office they have now, like other Indian Governments, turned against their benefactors, and joined the weak and faithless Government of Lahore, in order, as it were, to force the British Government to depose their Rajahs.

In consequence of the probability of hostilities on the frontiers between the Sikhs and Scinde, the Bombay Government had ordered 8000 men to be concentrated as soon as possible, in order to have at least 4000 men ready to be sent to the banks of the Indus. It was said that an army would be formed in Upper Scinde, but nothing positive was known on the subject.

Lord Elphinstone had reached Bombay, from Ceylon, on his way to join the Governor-General on the North-west frontier.

The Manilla Muloy, who had perpetrated the atrocious murders of six persons, and wounded sixteen others, had been tried in Bombay, and sentenced to be executed.

In consequence of the military movements, the exchange on England had risen to 2s. and 2s. 0½d per rupee, and the Government securities had fallen 4 or 5 per cent. This was principally attributable to the want of silver as a circulating medium.

The most important domestic item of intelligence is the great rise in the price of rice, consequent on the large exportations to Britain. The common kind used by the great body of the people was double the price, the retail price being nearly two rupees the maund. Railways were as popular in India as they are in England, and shares in the Great Eastern were not to be had on any terms, while those of the Great Western, which were very lately opened to the public, were almost all taken. The survey, under Mr. Simms, is said to be rapidly progressing.

CHINA.

The China mail, of the 30th November, contains news a month later than that last given. That authority confirms the account of the wreck and total loss of the Bombay clipper, the *City of Shiraz*, on the Isle de Negros, in the Mindoro Sea. All hands, with the exception of three Lascars, are supposed to have perished. This vessel, with several others, had long been due at Bombay, where, as well as in Calcutta, apprehensions for her safety were beginning to be felt.

The death of Mr. Ley, the English Consul at Amoy, is mentioned in terms of great regret; and a mortality had taken place in the detachment of Royal Irish stationed at Chuck-chew.

The total quantity of tea exported from China to Great Britain, between the 1st of July and the 20th of November last, is 27,823,361 lb.; 24,304,328 lb. being black, and the rest green.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.—A most distressing accident occurred on Wednesday (last week), near Reedham (Suffolk.) Mr. Gown, a small farmer and butcher who lived in a cottage opposite Reedham Church, went into the marshes on the above day with his gun, for the purpose of shooting wild-fowl. On returning home he was playfully caressing his boy, a sweet child about three years of age, to do which he unthinkingly set his gun down on the butt-end by his feet, loaded and on cock, the father leaning upon the muzzle. At this moment the child was playing between his father's legs, and unconsciously pulled the trigger. The gun went off, and the contents entered the lower part of the head, blowing the poor man's brains out at the top of the skull. We need hardly add that he was immediately a corpse, stretched at the feet of his innocent, laughing, happy boy.

SIXTEEN PERSONS OF ONE FAMILY BLED TO DEATH.—An inquest was held on Wednesday (last week) at the White Lion, Bilston, Staffordshire, on the body of Joseph Revell Pitt, a child about two years and two months old, who had died from loss of blood under the circumstances detailed in the following evidence:—Mary Ann Pitt deposed that she is the wife of Joseph Pitt, a tin-plate worker, residing in that town, and the mother of the deceased child, who had been in perfect health up to Saturday. About one o'clock on that afternoon he was playing about a chair, and began to climb up the back of it; the chair overbalanced, and fell with the child to the ground. She raised him up, but could not perceive that he was hurt anywhere, excepting on the lower lip and the upper gum, both of which were bruised a little. He did not appear to be in much pain, and soon began to play again. She and her mother took the child to Mr. Dickenson, surgeon, who dressed the gum, and the bleeding ceased for about an hour; but about eight o'clock it commenced again, and continued to bleed all night. About eleven the next morning she again took the child to Mr. Dickenson, who applied something to the gum, and then bound it up with tape. Mr. Dickenson applied something more on Sunday evening, but the bleeding did not cease. The gum continued to bleed till Monday forenoon, about eleven o'clock, when she took the child to Mr. Hancock, another surgeon, at whose suggestion she washed the mouth with alum water two or three times a day. She continued to do so until the death of the child, which took place about six o'clock on Tuesday morning. Hannah Phillips, grandmother of the deceased, stated that she had lost four children from bleeding to death, and in the family twelve other persons (making altogether sixteen) had bled to death, not one of them having been seriously injured; the injuries were slight cuts or falls. Some of them had bled to death from teeth being drawn. The Jury returned a verdict in accordance with the above evidence.

SUICIDE FROM RAILWAY LOSSES.—On Tuesday an inquest was held upon the body of William Edward Bartell, formerly a captain in the 55th Regiment of Foot, who shot himself on Saturday last at his lodgings in Camberwell. Evidence was adduced to show that deceased had been in a desponding state of mind in consequence of losses incurred by railway speculation. Verdict—"Temporary Insanity."

SUDDEN DEATH IN A ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.—Mr. G. J. Mills, on Tuesday held an inquest at the Elephant and Castle, Camden-town, on the body of an aged female, named Caroline Sullivan, who dropped suddenly dead, during the performance of mass, at the Roman Catholic chapel in Clarendon-square. The unfortunate woman was dead before medical aid could be procured, and she was at once removed to St. Pancras workhouse.—Verdict, "Natural Death."

FIRE IN PEMBROKE COLLEGE.—An alarm of fire was given between seven and eight on Tuesday morning. It appears that the flooring of one of the top rooms in the tower over Pembroke College gateway had accidentally caught fire; one or two engines were soon on the spot, and every spark speedily extinguished before there was time for any serious damage to occur.

FIRE AT CAMBRIDGE-HOUSE.—Cambridge-house, Kew-green, had, on Monday evening, a narrow escape from fire. The window-curtains in the Duke of Cambridge's bed-room were found in flames, and the fire was extending itself from the fire-place up the side of the room, when the smoke in the house led to its discovery. The damage was confined to that and the adjoining room, and the room underneath. The fire arose from the hearth-stone in the bed-room having become heated, by the grate being lowered, and a beam underneath had consequently ignited. The Duke of Cambridge was going from London to sleep at Kew that night, but returned to town on learning the circumstance.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

A COCKNEY COURSE.

To what base uses we may come at last!—SHAKESPEARE.

Some weeks ago we promised, before the end of the season, to exhibit to the reader one of our great national meetings of the leash—a coursing, whereat even Old North himself might be present both with pleasure and profit. And this is saying no small thing, for, in his sporting jacket, Christopher is the very genius of generous wood-craft. Nay, never take it on our word; but read and learn the fact from his own words; digest it with the spice, the aroma of his stirring page.

"What signifies any sport in the open air, except in congenial scenery of earth and heaven? Go, thou gentle Cockney, and course a suburban hare in the purlieus of Blackheath: but, bold Englishman, come with us, and course an animal that never heard a City bell, by day a hare, by night an old woman that loves the dogs she dreads, and hunt her as you will, with a leash and a-half of lightfoots, still returns at dark to the same form in the turf dyke of the garden of the Mountain Cottage."

What are your great big fat lazy English hares, ten and twelve pounds and upwards, who have the food brought to their very mouths in preserves, and are out of breath with five minutes scamper among themselves, to the middle sized, hard-hipped, wiry-backed, steel-legged, long-winded mawkins of Scotland, that scorn to taste the leaf of a single cabbage in the wee moorland yardie that shelters them, but prey in distant fields, take a breathing every gloaming along the mountain breast untired as young eagles ringing the sky for pasture, and before the dogs seem not so much scouring for life as for pleasure; with such an air of freedom, liberty, and independence do they fling up the moss and crack their feeds in the faces of their pursuers. Yet stanch are they to the spine, strong in bone, and sound in bottom. See how Tickler clears that twenty-five-muss-hag at a single spang, like a bird—tops that hedge, that would turn any hunter that ever startled in Melton Mowbray, and then, at full speed, northward moves, as upon a pivot, within his own length, and close upon his haunches, without losing a foot off within a point of due south. . . . Line is formed, and we march towards the hills. An old shepherd meets us on the long, sloping, rushy, ascent; and, putting his brown withered finger to his gnostic nose, intimates that she is in her old form, behind the dyke. Soho!—soho!—soho!—for a moment the seemingly horned creature appears to dally with the danger, and to linger ere she lays her legs on her shoulders, and away—like thoughts pursuing thoughts—away fly hare and hounds towards the mountains. Stand still for a moment—for not a bush the height of our knee to break the view—and is not that a brattling burst up the brae—a beautiful exceedingly!—and sufficient to chain in admiration the beatings of the rudest gazer's heart? Yes, of all beautiful sights, none, none, none so much so as the miraculous motion of a four-footed wild animal, changed at once from a seeming inert sod or stone, into flight, fleet as that of the falcon's wing!"

Some eight and forty hours ago, we were flavouring our rasher of bacon and cup of strong black tea with the chapter whereof the foregoing extract forms a portion, when a knock at our sanctum door announced the old boy of all work, who constitutes the male portion of our suburban establishment. "If you please," he said, "the Old Deer Park Club is going to have a day's training on the Hurst—the huss would be all the better of a canter—suppose you throw a leg over him for a hour?" The proposal was too reasonable to be negative—so towards noon we arrived at the scene of action. Moulsey Hurst will go down to posterity as a classic spot—where once the nobility fought with fire-arms, and the mobility with arms "less nice." It hath now fallen upon more household days and duties. That this, what is here written, may be proved to his satisfaction, the reader, when our grand meeting of the leash sees the light, needs but—

"Look on this picture and on that."

On Thursday last there was a Cockney Coursing, on Moulsey Hurst. Soon after one p.m., the sportsmen might be seen ferrying over from the Bell, and eke many another public. The race course at Hampton bath but a single tree—just one more than the race course of Newmarket. Hard by this umbrageous solitude was the tryst; while adjacent, to leeward of a ditch, was the refectory—the apparatus of a "baked tater all hot" man—in the present instant devoted to mutton pies. We say nothing of the confectionery, but there may be those ill-natured enough to hint that if any one has lost his dog Pincher in those parts, there's no need of a conjuror to discover where he's buried. Well, last arrived the hares—devoted creatures—just caught in Kew Gardens, and brought to the sacrifice in boxes, symbolical of their fate—like nothing in timber so much as pauper coffins. The sacrificial incense—in shape of unodoriferous cigars—being set alight, puss the first was enlarged, and gobbled up before you could say Jack Robinson. Another followed—and another, and another—a grim catalogue; each affording about the amount of sport young gentlemen home for the holidays extract out of the whew of a house cat. It was said the courses were for stakes of a sovereign entries: very dear at the price.

We presently turned from the scene, with a gallant officer, quartered at Hampton Court, whose opinion of the woodcraft was similar to our own; we bawled together the chance which exposed people to such resources against the enemy. We spoke of degeneracy, generally—apropos of going down the hill individually, he said—"and do you know that Vivian, the celebrated steeple-chase horse, is drawing a coal-cart here at Hampton?" We parted at the bridge, and turning our faces towards our Penates, murmured whilst thinking of Vivian and the coursing company—

"To what base uses we may come at last."

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—Although objected against, on the ground that the weights are set too low, the Chester Cup promises to be the "grand coup" of the spring campaign; the Newmarket Handicap, which, properly handled, might have shaken its hold on the betting public, having proved a decided failure. At present the only horses really in force are Warp, Best Bower, and Micky Free; but as a large acceptance may be relied on, we may look for many other "pots;" the leviathan stables at Malton and Middleham have yet to show a head. The most prominent in demand for the Derby are Sting, Brocardo, Iago, and Fancy Boy; the other favourites are steady, without much doing.

35 to 1 agst Warp (t)	50 to 1 agst Little Cassinb (t)	50 to 1 agst Queen of Tyne
35 to 1 — Micky Free (t)	50 to 1 — Mermaid (t)	50 to 1 — Miss Burns
35 to 1 — Best Bower (t)	50 to 1 — Flattery	50 to 1 — Alice Hawthorn
40 to 1 — Whinstone (t)	50 to 1 — Hope	

11 to 2 agst Sting	35 to 1 agst Traverser	50 to 1 agst Sharston (t)
14 to 1 — Brocardo (t)	35 to 1 — Fancy Boy (t)	1000 to 40 agst Radulphus and Smuggler
27 to 1 — Iago	40 to 1 — Humdrum	Bill (t)
20 to 1 — Spithead (t)	40 to 1 — Tugnet	
33 to 1 — Malcolm (t)	50 to 1 — Galatea colt	

20 to 1 agst Cuckoo (t)	35 to 1 agst Fantastico (t)
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THURSDAY.—The betting was confined to a few of the horses quoted on Monday, and was, in nearly every respect, completely governed by that day's prices.

33 to 1 agst Micky Free (t)	40 to 1 agst Whinstone (t)	45 to 1 agst Miss Burns (t)
35 to 1 — Best Bower (t)	40 to 1 — Mermaid	50 to 1 — Mervin
35 to 1 — Warp	40 to 1 — Ould Ireland	

11 to 2 agst Sting	30 to 1 — Ginger	35 to 1 agst Fancy Boy (t)
14 to 1 — Brocardo	30 to 1 — Malcolm	40 to 1 — Humdrum (t)
25 to 1 — Iago	30 to 1 — Spithead	

10 to 1 agst Forth's lot (t)

COUNTRY NEWS.

AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION MEETINGS.—The meetings in various parts of the country, in favour of agricultural protection, have been very numerous since our last. There was one at Tamworth on Saturday, which deserves notice. One remarkable characteristic of the meeting was, that while those present evinced a strong disposition to treat Sir Robert Peel with every possible respect to which a country gentleman, and a kind and courteous neighbour could lay claim, they expressed, at the same time, their most unqualified disapproval of his past political conduct, their want of confidence in him at present, and their distrust of him for the future. Mr. Pyle was in the chair, and the attendance was respectable. Mr. Roby moved, "That the present clamour for a repeal of the Corn-laws is unjust and unwarrantable, and does not arise from too high prices, or the necessity of the case; and it is the opinion of this meeting that wheat cannot be properly grown, on an average of the seasons, at less than 56s. per quarter, and all other agricultural produce in proportion." This resolution was carried. In the course of the proceedings, Sir G. Chetwynd said, he could not imagine that the Prime Minister of the Crown would, at the meeting of Parliament, venture to propose an annihilation of the Corn-laws. He (Sir G. Chetwynd) had read on the previous night the speech made by Sir R. Peel on the 10th of June last, and, judging from the sentiments contained in that speech, he could not imagine that Sir R. Peel would abolish the Corn-laws. Several resolutions against a free trade in corn were agreed to.

ELECTION FOR BUCKINGHAM.—On Tuesday, Colonel Hall, of the Guards, was elected for the borough of Buckingham, without opposition, in the room of Sir J. Chetwynd, deceased. The gallant Colonel, in returning thanks, said he would support the Corn-laws, would show his loyalty to his Sovereign, his support to the Church, and would consider well the Poor-laws, in order to give the labourers all the assistance he could. He would do his best to assist the town, and would always be glad to hear from them, and he hoped his conduct would meet with their support.

CORN-LAW MEETING AT NORWICH.—A meeting of the Free-trade Association was held at St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, on Monday evening. The Hall was intensely crowded, it being expected that Mr. Wodehouse, the member for East Norfolk, would endeavour to controvert the arguments of Mr. Cobden. After a speech from Mr. Cobden, however, Mr. Wodehouse did not attempt to prove the advantages of the Corn-laws, but confined himself to an amendment, deprecating the proceedings of the League. This amendment was negatived, and a resolution against the Corn-laws and complimentary to the League was carried.

LAMENTABLE DEATH OF THE REV. VAUGHAN THOMAS.—A lamentable instance of the mutability of human life occurred on Tuesday week, near High-worth, Somersetshire. The Rev. Vaughan Thomas, of Oxford, was out with the Vale of White Horse hounds, apparently in good health and spirits, and crossing a field at a foot-pace, when he suddenly fell from his horse and expired. Prompt assistance was immediately rendered, but life was found to be extinct. The rev. gentleman was but recently married.

OPPOSITION TO CALLING OUT THE MILITIA.—A public meeting was held at Birmingham, at the suggestion of the Peace Association, on Tuesday evening, at which resolutions were agreed to deprecating the proposal to call out the militia, and stating that the idea had created both surprise and alarm. The chairman was the Rev. Thomas Morgan, and the leading speakers were Joseph Sturge, Esq., Rev. Thomas Swan, Rev. P. Lecree, and the Rev. John Burnet, of London.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"S. C. C."—We believe you will find it impracticable to effect mate in four moves in the way you suggest. Both that and the more obvious method, by taking the K B P, were thoroughly examined by the author before he gave the problem to the public.

"Benevolens."—You cannot have given much consideration to our solution of Problem No. 102, or you would have found it stated that, if the Black King took the Bishop, checkmate would be given in one move less.

"Sir G. S." is correct in his solution, and also in his criticism on Problem No. 103.

"Stultus."—A prospectus of the translation of Heydebrand and Jaenisch will be issued the moment the work is sufficiently advanced for the translator to announce with certainty the time of publication. The solutions you require are as follow: In the first—Q to her R 5th and Q to her R square, mate; in the second—Q to her Kt 5th and Q to K 2nd, mate.

"Cymro" and "H. J."—Your solutions are imperfect.

"G. D." Leeds.—Many thanks. We shall find a niche for it hereafter.

"W. E. B."—You should repeat the questions to which you refer.

"Maran."—Get Jaenisch's excellent Work on the Openings; or the last Treatise by Mr. Lewis.

"Phil-Chess."—You are very likely to be right, as we had time only for a hasty supervision. It shall be examined carefully when we have leisure.

"A Novice."—In the position sent, Black may take the Pawn if it be moved two squares.

"Novicapitensis."—You have discovered only a part of the resolution of No. 103.

"M. G." "Sandy," and "Pict."—The present is a most favourable opportunity for amateurs to commence taking "The Chess-Player's Chronicle." The seventh volume has just appeared, and every exertion will be made to render it the most attractive of the series.

"N. B." Auld Reekie.—Thanks for the hint. It was an old reproof Napoleon threw at the British, that they never knew when they were beaten. The French, in one sense, seem to have the same failing. All the world thought them tolerably well pounded at Waterloo, but even to the present hour they speak of the affair as a victory! So, to compare small things with great, the Chess community considered the drubbing their champion, M. St. Amant, got in his match with Mr. Staunton decisive enough, and yet there is a paragraph now running the round of all the French papers, which, in alluding to the Print representing the contest, speaks of it as commemorative of their countryman's glorious triumph over the Englishman!!

"W. W."—Mr. Bryan's instructive Pamphlet on the French Chess Match may be got at the office of the "Chess Player's Chronicle."

"Shagird." Delhi.—We are anxiously awaiting the promised budget.

"Beta."—The subscription to the St. George's Chess Club is only three guineas per annum.

Solutions by "Automaton," "H. P.," "A Veteran," "R. R.," "M.," "W. P.," "Andrew," "Rob," "Alpha," "Maran," "J. G.," "Dublin," "T. O. F.," "G. P. G.," "Phil-Chess," "Emily Mary," "L. I. W.," "Quicksilver," and "J. J. P.," are correct. Those by "E.," "Miranda," "F. E.," "T. G.," and "Ennis," are wrong.

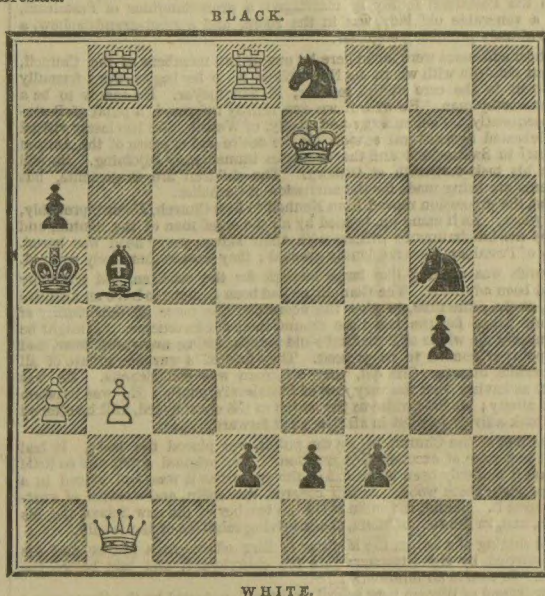
SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 104.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K Kt 6th (ch)	K to his Kt sq (best)
2. Kt to K 7th (ch)	K to his R sq
3. Q to K B's 7th	R takes Q
4. R to Q 8th (ch)	Kt to K sq or *
5. R takes Kt (ch)	R to B sq
6. R takes R—mate	

* 4. R to B sq
Kt to Kt sq

PROBLEM NO. 105.

This remarkable position is one of a selection of beautiful MS. stratagems just presented to the Editor, by M. Anderssen, the celebrated player of Breslau.



White playing first is to mate his opponent in five moves.
* We shall withhold the solution of this ingenious position for a fortnight.

GREAT CHESS MATCH IN AMERICA.

GAME THE SIXTH.

WHITE (MR. R.)	BLACK (MR. S.)	WHITE (MR. R.)	BLACK (MR. S.)
1. K P two	K P two	21. Kt to B 3rd	Q B to K 3rd
2. K Kt to B 3rd	Q Kt to B 3rd	22. K to R 2nd	K R to Kt 3rd
3. K B to Q Kt 5th	Q R P one*	23. K R to K Kt sq	Q B P one
4. B to Q R 4th	Q Kt P 2	24. Q R to K B sq	Q R to K Kt sq
5. B to Q Kt 3rd	K Kt to B 3rd	25. Q to K R 4th	K R to Kt 4th †
6. Q P one	K R P one	26. K Kt P two	K B to Q sq
7. Q Kt to B 3rd	K B to Q B 4th	27. K R to Kt 2nd	K B to Q Kt 3d
8. Castles	Q P one	28. Q R to Q sq	K B to Q sq
9. Q B to K 3rd	K B to Q R 2nd	29. Q P one	K B to K 2d
10. K R P one	Q Kt to K 2nd	30. P takes P	P takes P
11. Q R P two	Q Kt P one	31. K B to Q 7th	B takes B
12. Kt to K 2nd	Q B P two	32. R takes B	Q to K 3d
13. K Kt to R 2nd	K Kt P two	33. Q R to Q 5th	K to Kt's 2d §
14. Q Kt to K Kt 3rd	Q Kt to K Kt 3rd	34. K R to K Kt's sq	Q to K Kt's 3d
15. Q Kt to K R 5th	Q Kt to K B 5th	35. K R to K sq	Q R to K R sq
16. B takes Kt	K Kt P takes B	36. Q R to Q 7th	Q to K 3d
17. Kt takes Kt (ch)	Q takes Kt	37. K R to Q sq	Q R to K sq
18. K B to Q 5th	Q R to Kt sq	38. K R to Q 5th	K R to Kt 3d
19. K B to Q B 6th (ch) ‡	K to his 2d	39. Q to R 5th	K B P one ¶
20. Q to K R 5th	K R to Kt sq	40. Kt to K R 4th	Black surrenders.

* M. Heydebrand comments K Kt to B 3rd at this point.
† This to us appears a mere lost move.
‡ Very ingeniously played. If White ventured to take the Rook, his Queen would have been lost.
§ Had Black taken the K Kt P with his Rook, attacking the Queen with his Bishop and Rook, the following moves will show, we think, that he would have lost at least a piece; e. g.—

34. Q R to Q 8th (ch)	33. R takes Kt P
35. Q takes B (ch)	B takes R, or (a)
36. Q takes Q (ch)	Q to K square
37. R takes R, &c.	K takes Q

|| This loses the game, which Black might surely have drawn by simply playing the Rook alternately to K Kt 3rd and 4th squares.

(a)	34. K to Kt 2nd
35. Q R takes R (ch)	K takes R
36. R takes R (ch), &c.	

THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.—On Monday afternoon the half-yearly meeting of the Midland Railway proprietors was held at the station at Derby. Mr. Hudson, M.P., the Chairman of the Company, presided. The report of the meeting stated that there was a net balance of £197,887 7s. 3d., which enabled the Directors to divide upon each £100 of consolidated stock, £3 13s. 9d.; upon each £100 share of preferential stock, £3 13s. 9d.; upon each £100 of Birmingham and Derby consolidated stock, £3; reserving upwards of £14,000 towards the next half-year's account, leaving an increase over the corresponding half-year's account of 1844, as follows:—Passengers, £47,344; goods, £11,800; minerals, £5756; parcels, £19,104; cattle, £12,627: being a total income for the half-year of £69,308. (Cheers.) The Chairman briefly addressed the meeting, and recommended the adoption of the report. He then enumerated the advantages of the amalgamation, and brought forward his schemes of extension. The resolutions for carrying them into effect were agreed to, without opposition.

MUSIC.

THE CHORAL HARMONISTS.

The third Meeting was on Monday last, opening with Hummel's Graduale "Quod quod in orbe," which went rather flatly. This was followed by a clever offertorium, "Laudate Dominum," composed by Mr. G. Cooper, the organist, and well sung by Miss Williams. Mozart's magnificent Mass No. 12 closed the first part. The second comprised B. Donato's Madrigal "All ye who music love," (1558), which was encored; a Duet, "The Wood Birds," for soprano, by Julius Stern [who is he?] so prettily warbled by the Misses Williams, that it was demanded a second time; a selection from Mendelssohn's "Midsummer Night's Dream," so indifferently executed that it could never have been rehearsed properly; and Beethoven's Cantata "The Calm of the Sea," which was expressively rendered. The vocalists were the Misses A. and M. Williams, Mr. Lockett (tenor), and Mr. A. Novello (bass). The room was crowded, as usual. The next concert will be on the 16th of February. The materials exist to render this Society the first of its class; the programmes are generally admirable, but the want of efficient rehearsals is often severely felt.

MADAME DULCKEN'S SOIREEES MUSICALES.

This clever pianist commenced her series of Classical Chamber Concerts on Wednesday night, at her residence, in Harley-street. An elegant assemblage was present, in a handsomely-appointed drawing-room, with the best of music, executed by leading instrumentalists. The programme began with Mendelssohn's quartet in E minor, for two violins (Blagrove and Goffrie), tenor (Mr. Hill), and violoncello (Mr. Lucas). Then we had Weber's romantic style, in his quatuor, for piano (Madame Dulcken), violin (Blagrove), tenor (Hill), and violoncello (Lucas) and Mendelssohn's only Pianoforte Sonata, admirably executed by Madame Dulcken, save in the last splendid movement, which was taken too fast, closed the first part. Sterndale Bennett's fanciful Capriccio for pianoforte and orchestra opened the second act. It is an elegant work, based on the Mendelssohnian forms, and in the beginning reminded the hearer of the German's ideas in the March of the "Midsummer Night's Dream." Beethoven's Sonata in C minor, exquisitely interpreted by Sivori and Madame Dulcken, concluded the instrumental treat. Middle Schloss was the only vocalist. She sang cleverly a Prayer, by Conradin Kreutzer; a pretty romance, by Henselt; and Mozart's Non Temere, with Blagrove's violin obligato. She has a fine voice, but rather abuses its power.

MR. C. HORN'S ENTERTAINMENT.

Mr. Charles Horn gave his "Lays and Legends of Normandy," at Crosby Hall, on Wednesday night. The twelve compositions of this deservedly-popular composer are, on the whole, equal to anything he has yet given to the world: higher praise cannot be awarded, for to Mr. Horn are we indebted for some of our most popular ballads. The concerted pieces are those we like the least. The trio in C natural is very unpretending, and has nothing striking in its harmonies. The glees, "Twas Evening," in E sharp, will be the delight of amateur parties. It is in the modern style, with a solo for two of the voices. It may not be a Webbe or a Calcott in construction; but its harmonies are broad and showy; catching the ear, if not charming it. The quartet in A flat, "The Passing Bell," is not at all out of the region of common-places. The Fairy Duet, "Merrily Trip," is a light, lively, and pleasing one for lady voices. It is deliciously sung by the Misses Williams, and is destined to become a rival to the most popular duet, "I Know a Bank," by the same author. Mr. Machin's song, "The Wandering Plant," in four sharps, resembles an Irish melody. In the canon, "The Voices of the Winds," in C natural, is a delightful inspiration, little inferior to "The Mermaid's Cave," or, "Come and Be My Love." Mr. Hobbs's song of "Rosabel," in B flat, will be liked by the multitude, despite of its great resemblance to the Welsh air, "Poor Mary Anne." The song of "The Flower Girl," in E major, is a pleasing single song for a lady voice of limited compass, although the theme suggests reminiscences. The canon in D, "Maiden of Normandy," has a graceful melody, and is elegantly treated. The cavatina of "Christine," in E flat, requires a good vocalist to make it effective. The ballad of "Poor Marie," in E flat, is a safe encore, when sung by Mr. Hobbs, but the melody is trite. The cavatina, in E, "The Wood Nymph," takes higher ground, and has Mr. Horn's best attributes—facility and elegance. We cannot but regret, in conclusion, that such excellent music has not been associated with a more entertaining lecture than the "Lays and Legends of Normandy."

MR. WILSON'S SCOTTISH ENTERTAINMENT.

This popular vocalist gave his Lectures on Scottish Song on Monday and Friday, at Crosby Hall, on Wednesday at Hackney, and the next evening at Greenwich. On Monday his "Nicht wi' Burns" will delight the City amateurs at Crosby Hall. Although many of the old songs are now familiar to the audiences at the West-end of London, they are new to a great portion of the "East-enders." His reception at Crosby Hall has been quite enthusiastic, and he received several encores. His voice is in excellent order, and his tact and taste are, of course, undeniable. A host of imitators have sprung up since he first began, but he maintains his deserved popularity.

CONCERTS.—Mr. Willy, the clever violinist, gave concerts on Monday, at Islington, Tuesday at the Marylebone Institution, Wednesday at Rochester, and on Friday at the Eastern Institution. Mr. Adams's organ performance, at Exeter Hall, took place on Friday—we shall reserve our notice until next week. On Monday next Mr. John Roe commences a new entertainment on "The Madrigal and Glee Writers of England." On Wednesday is Miss Mounsey's fourth Sacred Concert. On Thursday the first meeting of the "Melodists' Club," and Mr. Braham's Concert at the St. James's Theatre. On Friday is the Purcell Club Dinner.

THE OPERATIC AND CONCERT SEASON.—Mr. Macfarren's new opera of "Don Quixote," with Miss Rainforth, Allen, Weiss, and Stretton, stands for next week at Drury-Lane Theatre. Mr. Benedict's opera of "The Crusaders" is in active preparation: Miss Romer, Miss Rainforth, and Messrs. Harrison, King, Stretton, Burdini, and Borroni are in the cast. Mr. Balfe has had a flying visit to London, but will shortly return for the season, to bring out his opera—"The Star of Seville"—at Drury-Lane. Mr. Wallace is about to visit Dublin; where, by the way, Miss Sara Flower, the contralto, who has returned from Italy, is creating a sensation in concerts with Mr. Phillips at the Music Hall. Letters from Italy describe the reception of Mr. Travers, an English tenor, who, in Verdi's "Ernani," at Saluzzo, in Piedmont, had made a great hit. Miss Hayes, a young Irish lady, is also making way at the Scala; and Mr. Jones, a bass, is acquiring popularity. Miss Dolby, after a brilliant career in Germany, returns to London next month.

CECILIAN SOCIETY.—This ancient Society, established in 1785, celebrated its sixtieth anniversary on Friday, at the City of London Literary and Scientific Institution, in Aldersgate-street. The members meet on the second and fourth Thursday in each month, except August, for the performance of vocal and instrumental music from the classical masters, with occasional gleanings from the modern composers. In addition to the amateurs, we remark in their programme that the services of Miss Rainforth, the Misses Williams, Miss Rollo Dickson, Miss Cubitt, Miss Felton; Messrs. Harrison, J. Kench, Leffler, Turner, Peck, Walker, Berry, Patey, Cornish, Master Simmonds, J. Parry, &c., are engaged.

A Correspondent has called our attention to an Amateur Society established in the City for eighteen years, who play the Symphonies of the old masters. We accept the polite invitation, and will seize an opportunity of attending such an excellent Association. The City amateurs display much judgment and energy in their support of good music.

MILITIA EXEMPTIONS.—At several large firms in the City and West-end, where a great number of hands are employed, as in some of the principal linen drapery establishments, mutual combinations have been formed to provide substitutes, should any of them be drawn. It is fully expected that the East India Company's Regiment of Volunteers will be formed, and brought into training, which will exempt all their clerks, servants, and labourers from service in the militia. This regiment, which was the last of the volunteer corps that was disbanded, continued in regular training until 1824.

CENTENARY BIRTH-DAY FESTIVAL OF PESTALOZZI.

(From a Correspondent.)

This Festival, to which the attention of the scholastic community, and, indeed of the whole philanthropic world, has for the last eighteen months been continually drawn, was celebrated on Monday, the 12th inst. The spirit by which the Committee of Management were influenced, will probably best be seen from the following extracts from one of their addresses, published July, 1845:—

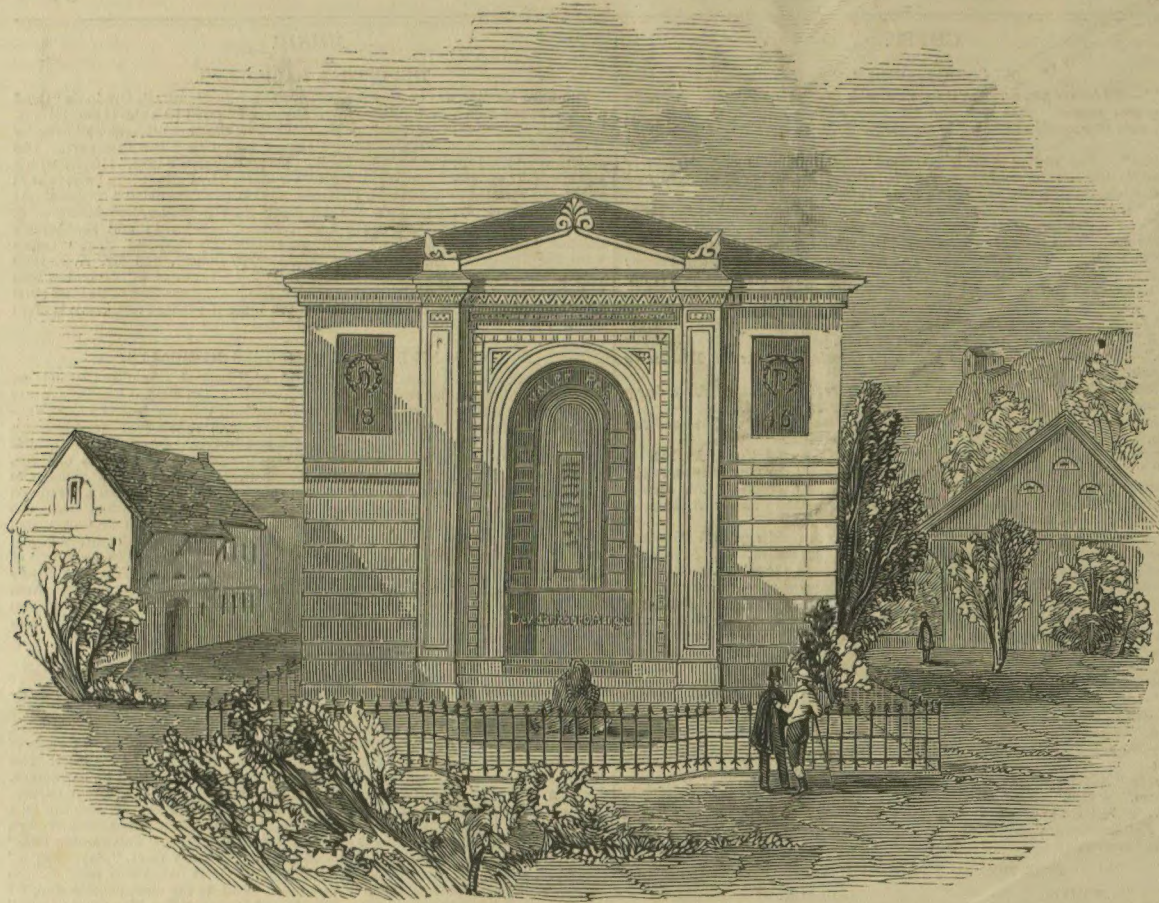
The 12th of January of the coming year, 1846, reminds the Swiss, and every progressing nation, of a common duty to be discharged towards the venerable name of Father Pestalozzi. This obligation the departed laid on us by his life-long beneficent efforts.

John Henry Pestalozzi was born at Zurich, on the 12th of January, 1746, at a time when men of all lands lay low in mental degradation.

(The Address then recites the life and labours of Pestalozzi: how he devoted himself to Agriculture, and in 1768, he purchased a neglected estate on the Birrfelde, in Aargau, which he remodelled on an improved system of culture; and, having collected the beggar-children of the district, in 1775, he founded his "Agricultural College for the Poor." In 1781 appeared his never-to-be-forgotten book, "Liedharde and Gertrude;" and thenceforth he extended his ideas to the instruction of the poor, and the education of the people generally. He next published the plan of an instructive newspaper; and, in 1801, he founded at Burgdorf, a self-supporting Normal School, for the children of rich and poor.) After many years of vexatious disappointment:

Heart-broken by the world for which he had lived—neglected and misunderstood—wrecked in all his efforts for the weal of his brethren—poor as any one of the many mendicants whom he had snatched from misery—nothing remaining to him but his integrity, and his strong faith in his God, and the future of his projects—the grey head of eighty years old then returned to his beloved Neuhof, to live there exclusively, as he declared, in his will, on the 15th February, 1827, for the earliest object of his life—the education of the poor. But this pious intention was to be only a legacy to posterity. He died, during a visit, at Brugg, on the 17th February, 1827, and was buried, according to his wish, near the School-house, at Birr.

No headstone, no epitaph, only an aged rosebush, marked his grave during eighteen long years; as if the moral hero of the age had left no relation, no friend, no grateful heart, no fatherland behind him. And still, his country thanks him for the flourishing condition of her education. Germany styles him the founder



TOMB OF PESTALOZZI.

of her new People's schools; France and England invigorate their public instruction with his spirit; thousands of friends and admirers of his name enjoy in all directions, in noble seminaries and institutions, the fruits of his exertions; states promote the happiness of their people by the foundation of poor-houses after his idea; Europe and America, nay, the whole of the educational world, call him Father Pestalozzi, and, yet, no children have been found to encircle his resting-place with a worthy memorial of their love.

In 1833 already, the great council of Aargau resolved upon the foundation of a house of education, in memory of the immortal one, for the neglected children of the poor; the execution of the project was, however, deferred, from pecuniary motives. But the new organization of united schools, with a gift from the state of 150,000f. (not quite £9000) was, in the meantime, laid by the spirit of the age as a sacred offering on his tomb.

But, to save the honoured burial-place of the departed from utter oblivion, the parties interested determined, in the year 1845, to build a new school-house by his grave, and add a suitable monument. * * *

The Committee of the Aargau Agricultural Society called a general assembly from all the Swiss Cantons, without any distinction of religious creed or political opinion, at Brugg, on the 12th and 13th July, again to take the affair in hand, and complete it. The assembled, alive to a feeling of honour and duty, were immediately of accord that—

"Not only shall a new tomb and monument for Pestalozzi be constructed, as near as possible to his first burial-place, but a living, lasting, useful monument, in the spirit of the last Institution he founded, shall be forthwith commenced, and on the celebration of his hundredth birthday, be set into operation. It shall consist of an Agricultural Institution for the education of the poor; and in it, according to Pestalozzian principles, instructors and instructresses shall be trained for other and similar poor-schools. The Institution shall be established on the former Pestalozzian estate, Neuhoof, in the Canton of Aargau."

* * * Provided the funds of the Institution permit any extension of the present plan, an Asylum for neglected children shall be formed, to serve as a kind of Model House of Correction for the young. * * * The Institution is a Swiss one, into which pupils from all the Cantons may be admitted. And children from foreign countries shall not be debarred admission to the extent the funds of the Institution will allow. * * *

This stirring appeal has not been made in vain. During the past six months, upwards of 35,000 Swiss francs (rather more than £2000) have been collected, in Switzerland and elsewhere, and placed at the disposition of the Committee. The present proprietor of Neuhoof, Mr. Jäger, a relative of Pestalozzi, will not part with the estate under 90,000 francs, and even then he makes a considerable sacrifice. The money already in hand will be as advantageously employed as possible, and kept accumulating; while new subscriptions will be solicited in all parts of the world, until the required sum be obtained, and the object proposed accomplished.

The Government of Aargau has in the meantime acted very liberally, and shown itself every way worthy of being the guardian of Pestalozzi's reputation and remains. It has wholly borne the expenses of the national fête and monument, and has granted to the Committee, at a mere nominal rent, the use of the Castle of Olberg, and nearly sixty acres of land, until Neuhoof can be purchased.

But this is anticipating. A programme of the solemnity had been sent us on New Year's Day, and, in common with many others in our neighbourhood, we repaired to Brugg on the 12th. Brugg is itself but a little hamlet, yet its situation is sufficiently romantic and beautiful to obtain for it the notice of most tourists—most pedestrians, at any rate. It lies at the foot of part of the Jura Chain, and is

overlooked by the Castles of Brunnegg, Wildeck, and Halsburg,—all three noted in Swiss annals: the chief attraction of the place will be, however, in the future, its association with the labours and the final resting-place of Pestalozzi.

Never, probably, since the times of the haughty feudal chiefs and their subservient claus, has such a gathering been seen in this retired spot. And the multitudes assembling were met for so high and holy a purpose!

The ceremonies were to have commenced at ten o'clock, but the continued arrival of honoured guests delayed the opening of the church doors until nearly eleven.

At nine already, the surviving members of Pestalozzi's family had met at Neuhoof, to receive the different deputations; strangers to that thronged to the place. The house in which Mr. Jäger lives is not the one formerly occupied by Pestalozzi, though this is still standing behind. Mr. Jäger is only distantly related to the Pestalozzi family by marriage: a granddaughter of Pestalozzi, however, a venerable old lady, was in the room, and a great-grandnephew, a young but already promising engineer.

A few short addresses were made here by one or two members of the Council, and the four children with whom the New School is to be begun, were formally delivered over to the care of the teacher, M. Sandmeyer. He seems to be a modest but worthy man. He was, if we are rightly informed, a pupil of Pestalozzi; subsequently, of Fellenberg; and, lastly, of Wehrli. He has lately visited all the celebrated agricultural schools (at the desire and expense of the Aargau Government) in Switzerland and the countries immediately adjoining. He will commence his task forthwith at Olberg. The children are Protestants, but arrangements are being made for the admission of Catholics.

At eleven, the procession moved from Neuhoof to Brugg Church, distant, probably, about 500 yards. As it came up, headed by all the chief men of the canton, and attended by the Landammann's officers with their staves, every head was bared. The family of Pestalozzi were not loudly greeted; they were rather lowly revered.

The Church was nothing like large enough for the occasion, and too many singers had been admitted. The Committee had been anxious to have an effective choir, and, at the same time, to give the poorest of the place an opportunity of raising their voices for the last time around their old instructor. As might be expected, nearly the whole of Pestalozzi's old pupils, living anywhere near, had made it a point of honour to be present. They formed a curious group, of all ages and ranks almost. One old, very old, man was conspicuous. He was pointed out as having been the very first of Pestalozzi's pupils. He was between eighty and ninety; his hair white as the snows in the churchyard, still he seemed hale, and took a lively interest in all that went forward.

At the far end of the Church, before the pulpit, was placed the body. It had been found in a state of excellent preservation. The original coffin was so little injured, that it had only been taken out of the ground as it was, and placed in a new shell of plain black wood. A pall covered the coffin, and wreaths of evergreen lay upon it. Behind the coffin stood the teacher of the New School and his four pupils, and, in the rear of them, the surviving relatives of the family.

After the singing of a hymn, the Minister of Brugg offered up a prayer, and the coffin was carried by eight teachers into the churchyard, and laid before the Monument. Of course all followed.

The New-School of Brugg—a poor school, built and endowed by the Government of Aargau—has been raised over the old grave of Pestalozzi. The edifice is not very large, but, still, respectably so; and one end of it entirely is devoted to the Monument.

It is not yet entirely finished, but enough is done to give a just idea of the whole. It is simple, but very elegant. We remember to have seen few Monu-

ments, the conception and execution of which pleased us better. The inscription, too, is good:—

VATER PESTALOZZI!

Hier ruht
HEINRICH PESTALOZZI,
Geb. in Zurich 12 Jan. 1746,
Gest. in Brugg 17 Hornung, 1827.
Retter der Armen zu Neuhoof;
Prediger des Volks, in Lienhard und Gertrude;
Zu Stanz, Vater der Waisen;
Zu Burgdorf und Munchen-Buchssee,
Gründer der neuen Volksschule;
In Yferton, Erzieher der Menschheit;
Mensch, Christ, Bürger.
Alles für andere, für sich nichts.
Segen seinem namen!
Der dankbare Aargau, 1846.

FATHER PESTALOZZI!

Here rests
HENRY PESTALOZZI,
Born in Zurich, 12th January, 1746,
Died at Brugg, 17th February, 1827.
Deliverer of the Poor at Neuhoof;
The People's Preacher in Lienhard and Gertrude;
At Stanz, the Orphan's Father;
At Burgdorf and Munchen-Buchssee,
Founder of the New People's School;
At Yferton, Instructor of Humanity;
Man, Christian, Citizen.
All for others—for himself nothing.
Blessings on his name!
Grateful Aargau, 1846.

! As the body was lowered into the vault, under the steps of the Monument, the different bands of singers burst out into a piece of exquisite melody composed for the occasion. The effect was striking. The sun had now pierced the mountain mists, and shone brightly. The air was clear, though cold. Despite the severity of the season, every one present remained uncovered until the ceremony was completed. Numbers of spectators climbed up to the church windows; some even were perched in the belfry, at the risk of their lives: no place commanding a view of the proceedings was left unfilled.

The body having been lowered, the vault was encircled with garlands of evergreen; the bust of the venerable philanthropist was brought, and placed beside, the temples twined with laurel. Five-and-twenty copies of "Lienhard and Gertrude" were laid on a table near, and then two or three very eloquent addresses were delivered from the Monument steps, immediately before the vault, by the Rev. Amsler (Protestant), School Inspector, the Rev. Vögeli (Catholic), and from the Landammann Weiland. The latter presented to the School Inspector, in the name of the Government, the books before spoken of, to be distributed to deserving scholars of the Canton poor schools, in the course of the following year, and also to be placed in such school libraries. To the Teacher of the new Pestalozzian School, he gave the bust, adding appropriate remarks.



PESTALOZZI.

Choral hymns were again sung; and, at about three o'clock, the assembly dispersed.

All the official bodies, and most strangers of note, received dinner tickets from the Government Committee. At a few minutes after four, upwards of 300 sat down to dine at the Maison Rouge, at Brugg. A few toasts and sentiments were given; but the meeting was rather characterised by harmony, than by brilliancy or festivity.

Among those who were present, and who had contributed much to the success of the measures taken, the venerable Zschokke could not be overlooked. His presence did honour to the cause and the country. He was for many years the personal and intimate friend of Pestalozzi, and is scarcely less deserving of public regard. After having been for half a century the people's guide and oracle, he devotes the close of his existence to caring for the welfare of the people's children, and these of the lowest and least befriended classes. How much he is beloved by the Swiss people is easy to see; how much reason they have to love him will be better seen by future generations than by ourselves. He left the room at an early hour, to return to Aargau, where he resides; and soon after his departure, the assembly broke up, each one retiring to his inn, or his home, pondering upon the singular dispensations of Providence, as manifested in the life and fate of

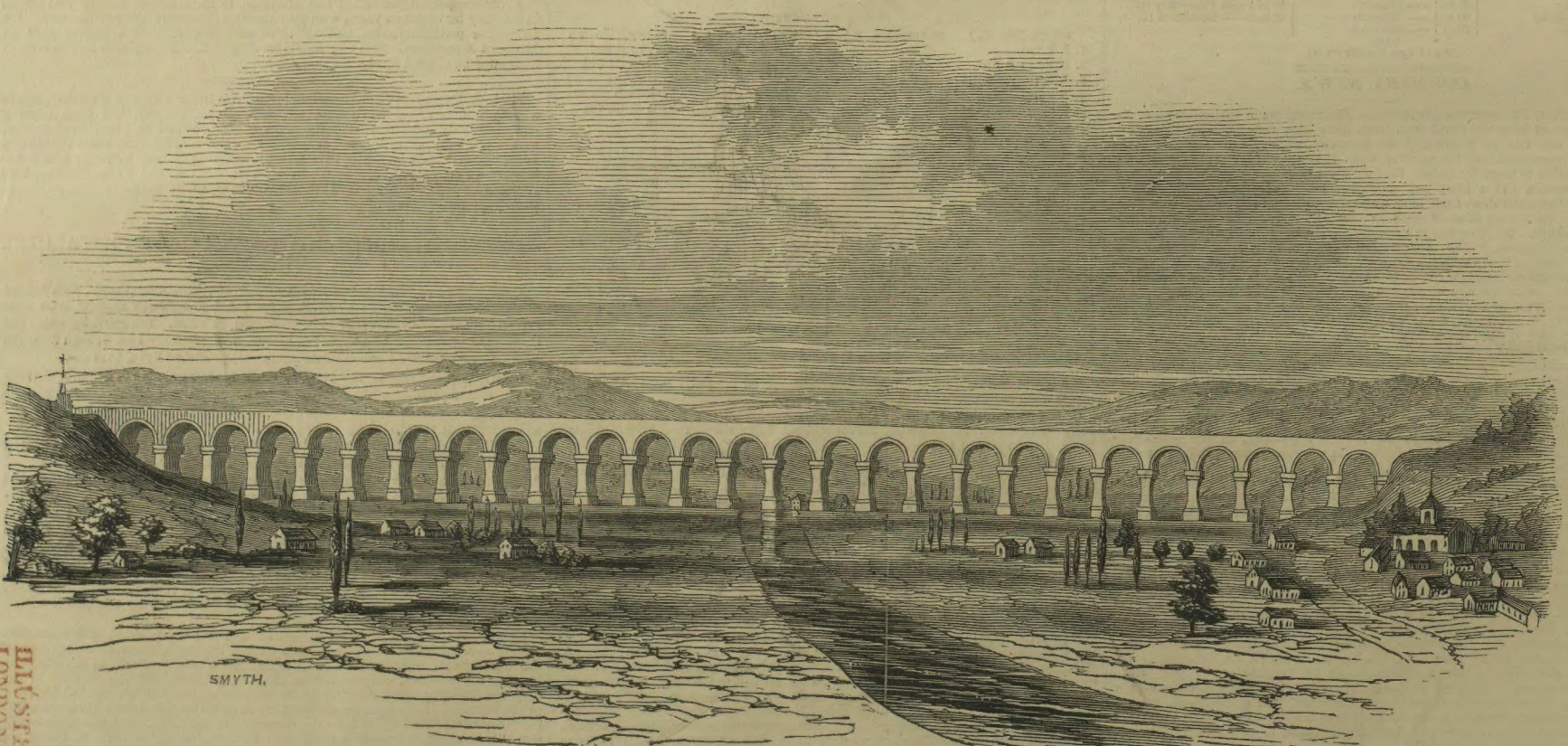
FATHER PESTALOZZI!

P.S.—At Burgdorf, at Solothurn, and at other places, festivals have, also, been held in honour of Pestalozzi.

THE VIADUCT OF BARENTIN, ON THE ROUEN AND HAVRE RAILWAY.

In our Journal of last week, we described the fall of this stupendous work. We annex a View, previous to the catastrophe, and quote a few of the details of the vast structure.

The Viaduct was commenced in the spring of 1844, since which time between 200 and 300 workmen had been daily employed upon it. It was not quite completed at the time of its destruction. It was composed of 27 brick arches, each presenting a span of 15 metres, and supported by 28 pillars, likewise of brick, each of which was four metres thick. The greatest elevation was 32 metres. The entire length of the work was 500 metres. All that now remains of this gigantic construction is the bases of the pillars, and even those are much shaken. The loss is estimated at 1,300,000f.



SMYTH.

THE GREAT VIADUCT OF BARENTIN, ON THE ROUEN AND HAVRE RAILWAY.

PHYSICIAN TO THE EMPEROR OF MOROCCO.

The Physician of the Emperor of Morocco, who is at present in England, supplying himself with European medicines, has, through the kind offices of a Correspondent, supplied us with some interesting information respecting Morocco and its Emperor, which we hasten to communicate to our readers. The Physician, who is about 50 years of age, is a man of much intelligence, and is well acquainted with the resources of European science; having cultivated the friendship of all the distinguished Europeans who visited Barbary, and from whom he has received information touching new discoveries and improvements. On many occasions he has saved the lives of shipwrecked Europeans, who would otherwise have been put to death by the fanatic Moors; and, to his friendly offices, most of the European travellers in the empire of Morocco stand indebted. The information he gives respecting some of the remedial resources of Africa are full of interest, and contains facts, which, if widely promulgated, would have an important influence on medical science. Some of his most effectual remedies he has derived from the Philistines of Mount Atlas, and the roving tribes of Sahara; and, in certain maladies, the mode of treatment prescribed by them is successful when the European methods fail. This, however, will cease to excite astonishment, when



PHYSICIAN TO THE EMPEROR OF MOROCCO.

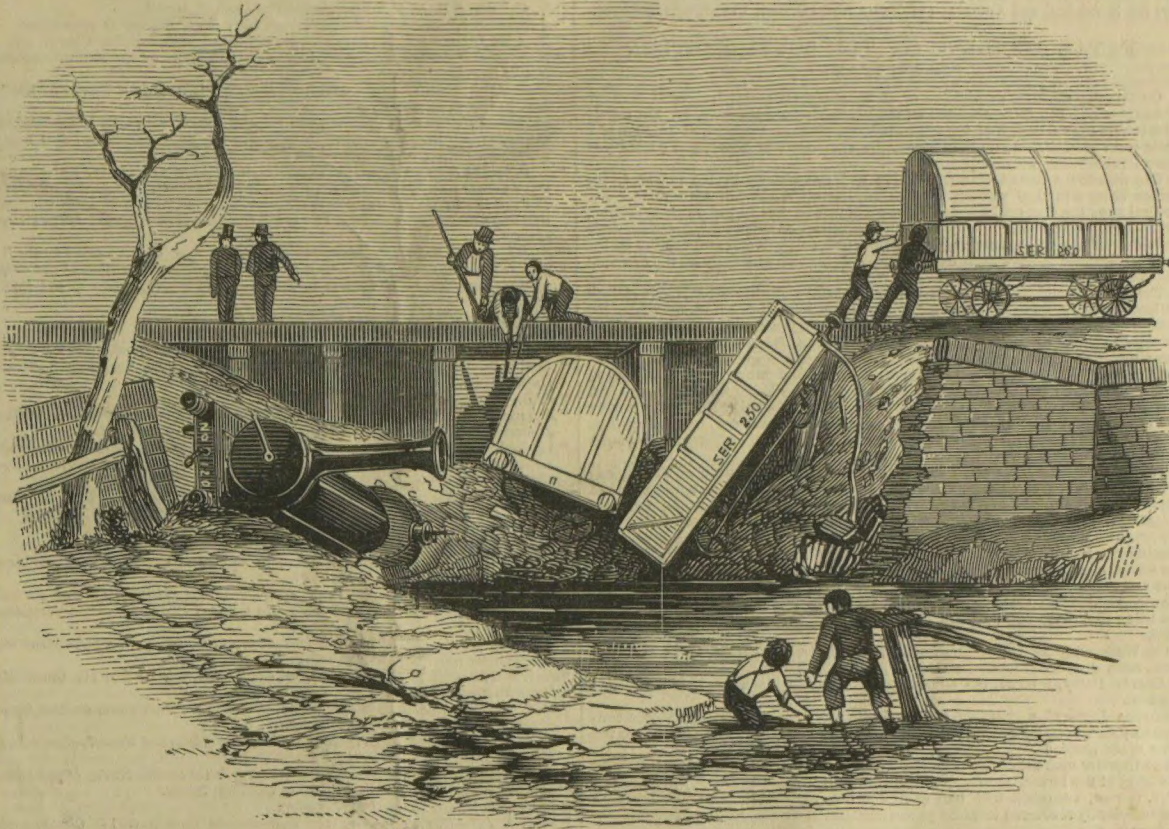
It is remembered that the most precious European medicines of the present day have been derived from the information given by savages. The Virginian Snake-root, the Peruvian Bark, and many others which could be mentioned, come under this category; while a large proportion of the rest have been originally secret medicines, among which may be mentioned James's Fever Powder, Iodine, Colchicum, Griffith's Mixture, and many others.



المرشدة

SEAL AND AUTOGRAPH OF THE EMPEROR OF MOROCCO.

In the interior of Sahara, or the Great Desert, is a magnetic rock, from which a water distils sparingly in the form of dew, which is possessed of extraordinary properties. Whether a latent electricity is imparted by the magnetism, or an additional quantity of oxygen enters into its composition, it is not easy to say; but, it appears to have the property of increasing the vital energies, as it restores



SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT ON THE SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY, ON TUESDAY LAST.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

the colour of grey hair, apparently by renewing the circulation in its capillary tubes; the cessation of which occasions greyness, and it gives the appearance of youth to persons of considerable antiquity. This water is brought to Morocco on swift dromedaries for the use of the Court, and its powers are much extolled by the Physician; it might be called the antipodes of the Lethean Styx of ancient times; and, though its virtues are certainly inexplicable by the lights of modern science, they cannot be denied in the face of sufficient credentials. In the caravans which cross the Desert of Sahara, the water, which is carried in skins, is sometimes all dried up suddenly by the hot winds; but, to this medicinal water, such an accident has never happened.

Muley Abderahman, the present Emperor of Morocco, has occupied the throne more than twenty years, and succeeded his uncle, Muley Soliman, who left the throne to his nephew, in preference to any of his own thirty-six sons. Muley Abderahman is one of the best Emperors that Morocco has known for many years. The recognised practice of the country, and, indeed, the method by which much of the revenue has heretofore been raised, is to set Pashas over particular districts, to plunder the people by every imaginable exaction; and then for the Emperor to plunder the Pashas so soon as they have gorged themselves sufficiently. The present Emperor has discouraged this practice; it has been but a rare event with him to "catch" either a Pasha or other subject, and then they have generally been culpable of some flagrant misdemeanour. Muley Abderahman, notwithstanding the loss of this source of income, is rich; as he practises the most rigid economy; he is in the habit of lending money to the native merchants to carry on their operations; and he suffers most of them to be indebted to the Customs department in considerable sums, with the view of giving them further accommodation. The Emperor is a most religious man; he is a diligent peruser of the Koran, and he bows with humility to the Divine will in every dispensation.

The late Emperor, Muley Soliman, was also a man of much worth, though not held in the same high reverence as the present Emperor. A few years before his decease, Muley Soliman went to war with some of the Philistine tribes of Mount Atlas, and was defeated by them: eventually, however, he defeated those tribes, drove them from their country, and cursed them; which, the Emperor being at the head of the church, is equivalent to excommunication. The Moors, wherever they appeared, in consequence of the curse of the Emperor, refused to give them the slightest relief, and thousands of these people perished with famine. Some of them came as far as Tangier, where the Physician was at this time; and he relates that he has seen them fight for a dead rat in the market-place; and every day many of them died in the streets. Going one day into one of the gardens outside the town, he found a number of bones of persons who had recently died; among them sat a woman, leaning against a wall, with an infant at her breast. The woman had just died, and the child was attempting to suck its dead mother.

He took the child in his arms; it opened its mouth spasmodically a few times, and then died too!

Throughout Morocco there is not a single wheeled vehicle of any description; there is not a road on which a wheeled carriage could travel, and there are no bridges; so that travelling is impossible in the rainy season, when many persons lose their lives in their attempts to cross rivers.

The Physician relates that, on one occasion, he was carried down in attempting to cross a river, near Fez, but was caught by a tree entangled in the bed of the river, on which he continued three days and three nights, before the flood had sufficiently abated to enable him to be rescued. During this time, large trees, which had been torn up by the roots, were frequently carried past him by the water; and he was in perpetual apprehension of some of these trees carrying off the tree by which he was sustained. Towns, during the winter months, have to lay in a stock of provisions, as if they were about to undergo a siege. Meat is preserved, for winter consumption, not by salting, but by boiling it in oil.

The Schilluch, and other tribes of Mount Atlas, say that they are the Philistines who were driven out of Palestine by David, and there is every probability that their story is a true one. These tribes are nearly pure savages; they go almost naked among the frost and snow of Atlas, and dwell in caves or in woods. The higher peaks of Mount Atlas are constantly covered with snow, and the rivers rising in those parts are kept full in summer, by the melting of the snows by the heat. The land, wherever there is water, is very fertile; but, where water is scarce, it is a desert. The Physician states that, on one occasion, when travelling into Sahara, he took the precaution to enclose the water-skins, carried on the camels, in boxes, filling the space between the skin and the box with earth. The hot wind came, however, and dried up all the water in the skins, in spite of this precaution; and the skins themselves were made so brittle, that they might be broken or crumbled in the hand. Some of his retinue died, and he immediately turned back, and with difficulty reached the wells, from whence he had set out in the morning.

The French are supposed to have long coveted Morocco, but they would find more trouble in making themselves masters of it than they have experienced in Algiers. The Emperor, even if defeated, could retreat to Taflet, or, if necessary, to Tuat, whither the French could not follow him, as, their water supplies being cut off, they would perish in the desert. From the inaccessible heights of Atlas tribes would be in perpetual readiness to sally forth and fall upon the invader when unprepared; so, though the French might succeed in retaining possession of some of the towns or fortified places, they would find the retention of the country to be impossible. The whole Moslem population are deeply exasperated against the French, for their conduct in Algiers; and, it would be a war of extermination that must be waged, if war were waged at all. The French have already felt the



THE GOVERNMENT IRON STEAM-FRIGATE, "BIRKENHEAD."—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

weight of such a warfare, and they would be overwhelmed altogether if Morocco were added to the load.

We should add, that the Physician was the medical attendant of the late as well as of the present Emperor: we annex his portrait, which, though in opposition to the prejudices of the country, we have been enabled to obtain. Appended, also, are the Royal Seal and Autograph of Muley Abderrahman, the present Emperor.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

On Tuesday morning an accident of an appalling character happened between Tunbridge and Peshurst stations, on the South-Eastern Railway, by the falling of a bridge over a branch of the river Medway, when an engine and portion of a train were precipitated into the stream, the engine-driver killed, and property of considerable value destroyed.

The disaster occurred between twelve and one o'clock in the morning, the bridge being a kind of wooden viaduct, resting on brickwork abutments. For several days the channel has been greatly swollen by the recent rains and wind, overflowing its banks, and inundating the fields and meadows for a considerable distance. The torrent of water, through the different culverts and bridges on the line, is described to have been exceedingly great, more especially at the one that led to the catastrophe.

The ordinary night up goods-train left Tunbridge shortly after twelve o'clock on Monday night, its usual time, and, on reaching the bridge in question, the guards were considerably alarmed on hearing a loud crash, and immediately they perceived a huge outburst of steam and heated coke, the train receiving at the same moment a severe shock, which instantaneously stopped it. For some minutes it was scarcely possible to conjecture what had taken place; but, on the confusion and excitement somewhat subsiding, it was found that the bridge had given way at the moment the engine went on, not only precipitating the engine and tender into the stream, but also several of the luggage-vans. Of the engine, just the top of the chimney could be discerned, while the tender and carriages were immersed in the water.

The attention of the guards was instantly directed to the safety of the engine-driver and stoker, brothers, named William and George Doyle, who were both found lying on the banks of the river. The stoker had managed to swim ashore, dragging the frightfully-injured engine-driver with him. The poor fellow was almost cut in two, and it was with much surprise that he was discovered to be breathing. It seems that finding the bridge parting and the engine falling into the water, he must have endeavoured to jump off, when he fell between the engine and tender, and, the ends striking, nearly severed him at the lower part of the stomach. The sufferers were with all possible haste removed to Tunbridge, but when that place was reached, the unfortunate engine-driver had ceased to exist.

On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Dudlow, one of the Coroners for the county of Kent, opened an investigation at the Angel Inn, Tunbridge, relative to the death of Charles Dolby, aged 27, the engine-driver, who lost his life by this deplorable accident.

Charles Lennard, a guard in the service of the Company, gave evidence confirmatory of the above account, but said he could not form any opinion as to the cause of the accident.

The Coroner here asked the condition of the stoker, the deceased's brother, who was lying at the house.

Mr. Goram, a surgeon who had charge of him, replied that he did not think him sufficiently recovered to undergo the excitement which an examination might produce.

In consequence, therefore, of the dangerous state of the brother of the deceased, it was determined for the present not to examine him.

After the examination of another witness, Mr. P. W. Barlow, the company's engineer, was called to give his opinion as to the cause of the falling of the bridge. He had carefully examined the spot since the accident, but in consequence of the foundation and the lower part of the arch being so much inundated with the water, he had been unable to make such inspection as to arrive precisely at the cause of the unfortunate occurrence, nor could he until the water subsided. As he stated, however, that he could then give a decided opinion upon the subject, the inquest was adjourned till Monday next.

"THE BIRKENHEAD" IRON STEAM-FRIGATE.

This fine steam-frigate has recently been built by Mr. John Laird, at his shipyard, at North Birkenhead; and was launched towards the close of last month, the Marchioness of Westminster naming the vessel.

The *Birkenhead* will be one of the largest iron steamers belonging to the Government. The following are her dimensions:—

Length between perpendiculars	210 feet
Breadth within paddle-wheels	37½ feet
Ditto outside ditto, about	60½ feet
Depth of Hold	23 feet
Tonnage, carpenter's measurement	1400 tons.

She is to be propelled by paddle-wheels; and the engines, by Messrs. George Forrester and Co., will be, collectively, of 560 horse power. The model was by Mr. Laird himself, and approved of by the Admiralty. She is, in fact, all that can be desired by the most critical judges in naval architecture; very sharp at both extremities, yet with that fulness and rotundity of bottom and bearings which will enable her to do her work well, "blow high, or blow low."

She has a round but handsome stern, with few but chaste decorations; and her bow terminates in a huge figure of Vulcan, who holds a hammer in one hand, and in the other some of "the bolts of Jove," which he has just "forged." This was designed and executed by Mr. Robertson, of Liverpool. The vessel is clench-built below water, and carved-built below her top sides.

The armament of the *Birkenhead* will, we learn, be two 96-pound pivot guns, one forward and the other aft; and four 68-pounder broadside guns. The round stern is peculiarly adapted for the working of the huge "Long Tom" abaft; and when, to the artillery stated, we add the men and musketry she will carry, and the power of her steam to place her in any position, offensive or defensive, there can be no doubt but she will prove to be a most formidable opponent to any adversary.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 25.—Third Sunday after Epiphany.
MONDAY, 26.—Mercury rises 6h. 39m. a.m.
TUESDAY, 27.—Hutton died, 1823.
WEDNESDAY, 28.—London first lighted with gas, 1807.
THURSDAY, 29.—George III. died, 1820.—Swedenborg born, 1689.
FRIDAY, 30.—Charles I. beheaded, 1648.
SATURDAY, 31.—Hilary Term ends.—Pheasant Shooting ends.

HIGH WATER at London-bridge, for the Week ending January 31.

Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M. A. M. h. m. h. m. h. m. h. m. h. m. h. m. h. m. h. m. h. m. h. m.	0 40 1 9 1 37 2 1 2 28 2 51 3 16 3 39 4 1 4 23 4 44 5 7				

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- "Quasitor," Lynn.—"Horne's Introduction to the Study of the Bible" is a standard work.
"A Reformer."—A Gallery for Peers will be provided in the New House of Lords.
"Young Robert."—The Library of Entertaining Knowledge may be had of Mr. Nattali, bookseller, Bedford-street, Covent-garden. Due announcement will be given of the publication of the other work named. "A." will inherit the property.
"Luna," Langhorne.—The Great Telescope constructed by the Earl of Rosse is not yet completed, though its extraordinary powers have already been proved. (See the President's Address to the British Association last year, at Cambridge.)
"Penzance."—The Treatise on the Horse, published by the Useful Knowledge Society, is an excellent work.
"Vivian."—The Sporting Almanack may be had, by order, of any bookseller.
"The Satyre" is inadmissible.
"W. C." should persevere: he will find the Population Totals correct.
"Philo-Medius," Torquay.—The Homoeopathic System is by no means on the advance.
"N." and "A Subscriber."—The Illustrated New Testament is in progress.
"Bookworm."—Scarcely, is thanked; but we have not room for the quotation.
"E. P. L."—Brighton, should apply to the address of the advertisement.
"N. Z."—We cannot speak as to the professional skill of the person in question.
"An Artist."—The Drawing of Sandhurst may be sent by carrier; or, if light, by post.
"A Subscriber," Lewisham.—The Engraving and the Work will appear shortly.
"A. M. W."—Try oil of almonds upon cotton, for deafness.
"A Cricket on the Hearth."—The author of "Susan Hopley" is Mrs. Crowe. The value of a German thaler is 3s. English; of a forin, 1s. 8d.
"The Age of Iron" we have not room for.
"F. H. B." should apply to a Police Magistrate.
"J. M. B."—Kewick, is thanked for the Sketch, but is, we think, mistaken in one respect: the Monument to Southey is about to be erected at Bristol, not in Crosthwaite Church.
"W. P."—Victoria Park.—Address Mr. Landells, Engraver, 6, Bride Court, Blackfriars.
"A Subscriber," Poole.—Bencraft's Patent Hames may be obtained, by order, of any harness-maker.
"Zeta," Kent Road.—It is a popular error to suppose that second-cousins may not marry, though first-cousins may.
"X."—Southampton, is thanked for the Sketch, which, however, we had not room to insert.
"Inquisitor," Whist, Wexford.—We cannot undertake to settle disputes at cards.
"Miles's" Letter has been referred to the Artist.
"H. R. A."—Bruges, should send a specimen sketch.
"A Constant Reader."—The Holy Maid of Kent was a country girl, who was used as an instrument by the adherents of Queen Katherine to excite the nation against the then proposed divorce of Henry VIII. from his first wife, and the apprehended separation of the English Church from that of Rome: she was executed in 1534.
"F. G."—We have neither time nor space to satisfy curiosity as to the stature of the conductors of orchestras.
"A Subscriber."—We are not aware of the amount of the salaries of the Librarians in question.

"A Constant Reader," Blackheath.—The letter will be free of postage, provided the stamp be placed on it.

"R. Wallace."—The new type cut for our present Volume is from the foundry of Messrs. Alexander Wilson and Sons.

"Johannes" is thanked.

"H. C." and "G. H. T."—Liverpool.—The Duke of Argyll.

"A Subscriber," Bishopsgate.—The report as to Capt. Warner is groundless.

"H. A. H."—London.—We have recently replied as to the smallest Church, &c.

"E. E. L."—Dover.—Half-farthings are current coin of the realm, and cannot legally be refused.

"Student," Newcastle.—An economical edition of "Dr. Adam Clarke's Bible" has been published by Mr. Tegg.

"Ignoramus."—No town now exists on the spot which is usually recognized as the Capernaum of Scripture, about 10 miles N. by E. from Jerusalem: it is now only a Bedouin station, called Tel-Houm, Tal-Heen, or Tel-Hoohm.

"A. D."—The duty on Armorial Bearings is as follows:—£2 8s. per annum for every person using them, and keeping a taxable carriage; £1 4s. for every person charged to window duty, and not keeping such carriage; and 12s. for every person who keeps no taxable carriage, and is not charged window duty. Minors are not exempt.

"A. M."—The Red Hand, borne in a canton of their coat of arms by the Barons, is the Ensign of Ulster, and was adopted in commemoration of the original purpose for which the Order was instituted—viz., the pacification of the Province of Ulster.

"R. J. H."—No commission in the Navy can be purchased.

"Brandy Andy."—Declined.

"Canone."—We have not heard of the invention of the new mouthpiece for the flute.

"J. R. B."—The vocalist referred to was of Jewish extraction, and pupil of the Royal Academy of Music.

"B. B."—York.—No.

"A Lover of Sacred Music."—The Foundling, the Temple, Margaret-street Chapel, Hanover Chapel, &c.

"A Lyrist."—The author is generally paid for the words, and the composer speculates on his own account; but, generally, it is the music publisher who remunerates both.

"W. D."—There is no uniform method adopted in reporting the debates of Parliament: there are almost as many systems used as individuals engaged. Try Carpenter's.

"Disco," Bradford.—An error of the Artist.

"J. W."—Worcester, is thanked for his note: will our Correspondent favour us with the lithographic view of the Mansion?

"A Subscriber," Yeovil.—We are not aware of the existence of any periodical authorized publication of the Monies in the Court of Chancery, with advertisements of next of kin.

"A Young Aspirant."—The information requested by our Correspondent would occupy more room than we can spare.

"J. A."—The Office of the Hospital for Consumption is at No. 20, Great Marlborough-street.

"T. A. D." is thanked for the account of the visit to the Parthenon, omitted for want of room.

"Edgar."—Is there not a portrait of Bothwell in Holyrood House?—See "Lodge's Portraits."

"A. M."—Rochester Square.—The postage of a letter to St. Kitt's, if paid in this country, will not be demanded again in the West Indies.

"W. S."—Dublin, is thanked for his offer.

"A. L. B. P."—The address of the Heir-at-Law Society is 14, Chatham-place, Blackfriars.

"J. H."—Wood-street.—Our Engraving is correct.

"J. G."—Bristol, is recommended to apply to the Registrar of his district.

"A Subscriber," Winton.—Mr. Eisenberg, the Chiropodist, has published a work on the Preservation and Treatment of the Feet.

"A Subscriber from the Beginning," Sheffield, is thanked for his obliging offers.

"St. Ives," Huntingdon.—Every Hawker must have his name and "Licensed Hawker" inscribed, in Roman capitals, on a conspicuous part of his cart or other vehicle: penalty in default, £10.

"C. F. T."—Tours.—A person cannot legally take and sell Daguerrotypes in England, unless licensed to do so by the Patentees.

"Philos. scopias."—The population of London is about two millions.

"J. R."—near Stockport.—Physiological Drawings may be purchased of Mr. Renshaw, 356, Strand; or of any other medical bookseller.

"Rusticus" is not recommended to have the Print of "The Waterloo Heroes" sent by post.

"Peter Puzzlegig," Bath.—Apply at the Surrey Zoological Gardens.

"An Old Subscriber," Jersey, is thanked.

"Cesaromagus," Chelmsford, is not recommended to advertise. The appointments made by a Postmaster-General are not, of necessity, cancelled by his successor in office.

"M. D." (The Militia).—See our general reply.

"S. B."—The Lines are too complimentary for us to print.

THE MILITIA.—The following Correspondents are recommended to await the passing of the new Militia Act:—"A Constant Subscriber," Preston; "F. A. C.," Portsmouth; "A Subscriber," Southampton; "A Subscriber," Sidmouth; "W. H.," Reading; "A. B.," Bishop Wearmouth; "S. R. B.," West Malling; "A Constant Subscriber," Yarmouth; "An Old 99th Man"; "J. W. P.," Renholme; "J. B.," Ouseworthy; "Pascal," Edinburgh; "J. D. L.," "A Subscriber from the Beginning"; "A Constant Reader," Southampton.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1846.

NOTWITHSTANDING the great diminution in the number of Railway schemes that has taken place, from the operation of various causes needless here to specify, enough still remain to task all the energy that the Legislature will have to spare, after the important public business that must occupy so much of its attention. But it is to be hoped that all the anxiety of Parliament will not be absorbed by the new schemes; there is no little need for some improvement in the manner in which the old ones are managed. Accidents are even more frequent now, after some years' experience of the working of the system, than they were in its infancy. We are falling off in skill at the time we ought, in the natural course of things, to be nearer perfection. Whether this proceeds from the desire of Companies to make larger profits, by reducing the expenditure to a degree that ensures a saving to themselves more certainly than it procures safety to the public,—or from the carelessness of numerous and well-paid officials, who ought to be better disciplined,—or, lastly, from some of the lines having in the course of years got somewhat out of order, the inevitable wear and tear having escaped due attention,—it matters not: in either case the travelling public is placed in "jeopardy every hour," and a feeling of dissatisfaction and mistrust is growing up, the deeper because the community has no direct power of applying the remedy. They are completely in the hands of the Companies, who are supposed, for the amount of the fares, to provide all the precaution and foresight required to make travelling safe. But from what is perpetually occurring, an impression is daily extending that less of those necessary qualities are exhibited than is desirable. If an accident takes place, down posts General Pasley, looks at the torn up rails and broken engine, rides back, trying an experiment or two by the way, gives his evidence before the Coroner's Jury, and explains elaborately what every body knew—how the calamity took place, but has little to say about what all are most anxious to hear—how such accidents can be prevented for the future. Thus the gallant General says, in a letter written to explain some inaccuracies that appeared in the reports of his evidence at the inquest at Thetford:—

I ascribed the accident partly to the imprudence of the engineman in running down a long descending gradient of 1 in 200 at the utmost speed that his engine could command, and partly to the peculiar construction of that engine, which I considered unsafe at a speed exceeding 45 miles an hour; a speed that was perfectly unnecessary on any part of that line, but especially on that portion of it where the accident occurred, between Harlingroad station and Thetford, a distance of only eight miles, for travelling over which forty-six minutes were allowed.

We have no doubt the cause of the accident was exactly what it is here stated to have been; but what the public want is some measures that shall effectually prevent such recklessness for the future. From all these inquests, inquiries, investigations, and reports, nothing seems to arise of any actual advantage. A man or two is killed, some passengers crushed, the fears of the public excited, the newspapers for a day or so are full of the affair, and then all sinks back again to its former apathy. Accidents from overdriving in general, all collisions, and the mishaps arising from bungling and confused management, are clearly to be traced to the Company itself, either through its bad instructions, or inefficient or careless servants. It is here that amendment is wanted, and the power to enforce such amendments must be created, if, by oversight, it does

not now exist. All the long reports of General Pasley will never bring us a step nearer the desired improvement unless the valuable suggestions they doubtless often contain, are followed up by action. What is the use of knowing the better mode, if we still pursue the worse, or allow others to pursue it?

For the safety of life and property, the Railroads must still be the "Queen's Highway," though the profits of the traffic go into private pockets. Railway, like all other property, must learn that it has "its duties as well as its rights"—and one of the chief of those duties is, to ensure to the public that safety which it amply pays for. This is perfectly attainable. The best lines in the kingdom are exempt from that painful notoriety which is beginning to attach to others; those others must look to it, for a regard for profits must not absorb every other consideration. If politics do not quite absorb the energies of the Railway King, here is a fine field for him, in which he may win opinions even better than the "golden" ones he now enjoys; but it is time he set to work, and exhibited his ability in improving the practical operation of the system he has done so much to develop. We would rather dispense with a few hundred miles of Railroad for a year or two, than go on in terror of being crushed by mismanagement on those which already exist. Let the Hercules of the Age of Iron begin the task, and that forthwith; for unless he shows his strength by results, men will begin to doubt its existence. When they have neglected their duty to the community, even greater Monarchs than the "Railway King" have been obliged to abdicate.

But whoever may do it, or decline to do it, better regulations must be enforced; the Government must have a control over the management of these immense undertakings, and that a direct and positive one. The system of inspection must be more rigid and more extensive; such an immense system cannot longer be entrusted to a mere department of the Board of Trade; it has outgrown such supervision; it has ceased to be a thing of subordinate importance, and will soon require a Board of its own.

Nor is safety of the person the only thing required; late revelations have sorely shaken the confidence of the public in the honesty of many of the railroad employes, and, unfortunately, it is not confined to one line or two. A remarkable document has just appeared, to which we would advise Boards of Directors to publish an answer, stating what measures, if any, have been taken to purge their establishments of those implicated. We allude to the confession of the convict Garratt, dated from "the Baretto transport," one of the most startling things the press has lately given to the world. He, it seems, was "living in idleness" near a railway station, and used to go on the platform to see the trains arrive; here he "got into conversation with the people of the railway and joined a connexion," so that the confederacy of railway brigandage must have been in existence before he became a member of it. Then follow such statements as this:—

We found it best to work at dark. Sometimes a passenger would be watched, and if any parcel of his promised well he would be dodged through to the train, and when he had passed on, with the confederate we managed matters easily; for, where practicable, he would put the luggage in the wrong place, or with a wrong ticket on it, or boldly give it to a confederate as his luggage to go with him in the train instead of in the luggage van; a confederate would ride a short or long trip, and then claim the particular article, or walk away with it, with or without the connivance of the guard, depending on his being in the secret or not. It was by going as a short passenger that we were able to effect these things; or else would, on the arrival of the train, boldly seize anything, and if stopped, it could be attributed to mistake.

Throughout, the staff of the Railway is implicated, but it was at the "Junction lines."

That we were able to work as well without the assistance of the railway man as with it. The passengers were gone out into the refreshment-rooms, and there was another by which we could start off to another place. In these various ways the game was played; first one way, then another, on one line, then changed about to another, intending to change from line to line in succession.

The impunity with which this system was carried on is astonishing; the details of the particular robbery which brought some of the parties to justice, equal in audacity of crime anything in the career of Jonathan Wild. The restoration of the property was regularly "negotiated" as a matter of business, the robberies going on all the while; and it is almost impossible, from what afterwards appears, to believe that the police have not neglected their duty; if not, they were miserably inefficient; how else can such proceedings as this be accounted for?—

When the discovery of other matters was made, and I was "wanted," as I thought, but not known, I resolved to leave England, and began quietly to realise; but then came the squabbles between the agents of the companies, and their disapproval of what had been done against Maynard, and stoppage of any other investigations; that gave me confidence, and I determined to remain, but forsook my lodging and old pals, and traded by myself on several lines, even under the very eyes of the police who wanted me, yet did not know me, except as a gentleman's servant, and above suspicion, whilst I have spent hours in their company, and sent spies to volunteer information and assistance. I felt certain all further pursuit was cooled down and stopped, and went on for weeks at the old game; we also resorted to various expedients to put them on wrong scents, and deter them from pursuit, if they were intent on it.

There is something rich in the use of the word "traded" here; and the perfect innocence of the police, as to what was going on "under their very eyes," is also edifying. But, what a rottenness does it not reveal in the whole system? What a contrast to the perfect safety to property which exists on the Continental lines! and their regulations must be adopted here, with better selected men to carry them out.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

RETURN OF THE QUEEN AND PRINCE ALBERT TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, arrived at Buckingham Palace, at ten minutes past three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, from Windsor. Prince Alfred and the Princess Alice were in another carriage and four, accompanied by the Dowager Lady Lytton. Her Majesty and her Royal Consort were received at the Palace by the Lord Chamberlain, the Master of the Horse, the Marquis of Granby, and Capt. Francis Seymour.

The Queen held a Privy Council at half-past three o'clock.

The Queen in Council was pleased to declare the Most Noble Walter Duke of Buccleuch, Lord President of her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and his Grace took his place at the Board accordingly.

Her Majesty having been pleased to deliver the custody of the Privy Seal to the Right Hon. Thomas Earl of Haddington, the oath of Keeper of the Privy Seal was administered to him, and the Noble Earl took his place at the Board.

The Queen having been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Henry Earl of Harewood to be Lord Lieutenant of the West Riding of Yorkshire, his Lordship took the appointed oaths.

Her Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. James Earl of Verulam to be Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, the Noble Earl took the oaths appointed to be taken thereupon.

The Queen's Speech, on opening the session of Parliament, was arranged and agreed upon.

CHAPTER OF THE MOST NOBLE ORDER OF THE GARTER.

On Monday her Majesty held a Chapter of the Most Noble Order of the Garter at Windsor. The Knights Companions having been robed in the armoury in their mantles and collars, passed into St. George's Hall, where they were called over by Garter King of Arms. The Knights Companions present were his Royal Highness Prince Albert, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, his Royal Highness Prince George, the Duke of Rutland, Duke of Wellington, Marquis of Exeter, Duke of Richmond, Duke of Buccleuch, Marquis of Lansdowne, Duke of Beaufort, Duke of Cleveland, Marquis of Abercorn, Earl Talbot, and the Earl of Powis.

The officers of the Order attended in their mantles, chains, and badges. There were present the Prelate, the Bishop of Winchester; the Chancellor, the Bishop of Oxford; the Registrar, the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor; Garter, Principal King of Arms, Sir Charles Young; and Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, Sir Augustus W. J. Clifford, Bart.

The Queen and Prince Albert were conducted from the private apartments to the Garter Room by the Lord Steward, the Lord Chamberlain, the Master of the Horse, the Vice-Chamberlain, the Treasurer of the Household, and the Comptroller of the Household.

Her Majesty being seated on a Chair of State, the Knights, attended by the officers of the Order, proceeded into the presence of the Sovereign; the Chancellor remaining at the door, not having been sworn.

The Knights Companions being seated, the Registrar signified to the Sovereign that the Right Rev. Dr. Samuel Wilberforce, Lord Bishop of Oxford, attended at the door of the Chapter Room, and humbly prayed to be admitted to take the

oath of office as Chancellor of the Most Noble Order; whereupon, by her Majesty's command, the Chancellor, wearing his mantle of purple velvet over his episcopal habit, was introduced between Garter and Black Rod, the former carrying on a velvet cushion the purse, gold chain and badge. The Chancellor knelt on the left hand of the Sovereign, and the oath was administered to him by the Registrar. His Lordship was then invested by the Queen with the gold chain and badge, and having received from her Majesty the purse, had the honour to kiss hands, and retired to his place on the left hand of the Sovereign.

The Marquis of Camden and the Marquis of Hertford were then invested by her Majesty with the Order of the Garter, with the accustomed ceremonies.

The Queen wore the mantle and collar of the Order at the investiture; the prelate stood on the right of the Queen, the Chancellor on the left, the other officers of the Order remaining at the bottom of the table. The Duchess of Buccleuch, Mistress of the Robes, and the Viscountess Jocelyn, Lady in Waiting, were behind her Majesty on the left, and the Lord Chamberlain, with the Sword of State, on the opposite side. The officers of the Royal Household in Waiting occupied their usual stations.

Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham were present at the august ceremony. The Queen gave a grand dinner in the evening, to which all the Knights of the Order of the Garter present at the Chapter were honoured with invitations, and were present, with the exceptions of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge (who left the Castle in the afternoon for Kew), and of the Marquis of Anglesey, who was prevented, by indisposition, from being present, and who also took his departure from the Castle in the afternoon.

The band of the Grenadier Guards was in attendance in one of the galleries during dinner, and performed several favourite pieces.

At the Court which was held, Earl Grey had an audience of her Majesty, and delivered the ensigns of the Order of the Garter worn by his late father.

PARLIAMENTARY ENTERTAINMENTS.

On Wednesday evening the Duke of Wellington, as the Ministerial leader in the House of Lords, gave his customary Parliamentary banquet, at Apsley House, to the supporters of the Government. Above forty Peers assembled at the banquet. As usual, immediately the dinner had finished, the Duke of Wellington read her Majesty's Speech. It was after ten o'clock when the circle separated. The company were in full dress.

Sir Robert Peel, as First Lord of the Treasury, gave a grand full dress banquet on the same evening, at the Right Hon. Baronet's private mansion, in Whitehall Gardens. The entertainment was served up in a style of consummate elegance in the noble picture gallery. About fifty members of the House of Commons were present; and Sir R. Peel also read the Queen's Speech, immediately after dinner.

Lord John Russell entertained a party of twenty, at dinner, on Wednesday evening, at his Lordship's family residence, in Chesham-place, comprising the noble Lord's leading political friends in the House of Commons.

WINDSOR, Thursday evening.—(From our own Correspondent).—The Duchess of Kent left Frogmore House this morning in a close travelling carriage and four, for town, for the purpose of being present, in the House of Lords, upon the opening of the Session of Parliament by her Majesty. Her Royal Highness, who was attended by Lady Fanny Howard, returned to Frogmore to dinner. Her Royal Highness will not take her departure for Clarence House, St. James's, for the season, until Tuesday, the 10th proximo; the day before her Majesty holds her first levee this year, at St. James's Palace. Her Majesty is expected to leave Buckingham Palace, in the course of a few days, for Claremont; and shortly afterwards, it is contemplated, the Court will proceed to Osborne House, for a short sojourn in the Isle of Wight, preparatory to a brief visit to Windsor Castle.

ILLNESS OF THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND.—The Duke of Sutherland is suffering from what is professionally called *ramollissement* of the brain—one of the most intractable to medical skill, of all the ills that flesh is heir to.

THE EARL OF ESSEX.—We regret to hear that the Earl of Essex, in consequence of the present uncertain state of his health, has been forced to decline the offer tendered to him by Sir Robert Peel of the Lord Lieutenancy of the county of Hertford, vacant by the demise of the Earl of Verulam.

DEPARTURE OF THE COURT FOR THE ISLE OF WIGHT.—We understand the Court is not expected to leave Buckingham Palace for the Isle of Wight until the first week in February.

THE PRINCE OF CAPUA AND FAMILY.—This illustrious individual, accompanied by her Royal Highness the Princess and their Royal Highnesses the Prince Francesco di Borbone and the Princess Vittoria Augusta di Borbone, their infant children, arrived at Malta on New Year's-day, in her Majesty's steam-ship *Sydenham*, from Marseilles; and, on their landing, the *Libertina*, bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral Sir William Parker, fired a Royal salute. At a ball given by his Excellency Sir William Parker, the naval commander-in-chief, both their Royal Highnesses honoured him with their presence.

ILLNESS OF LORD ALVANLEY.—Lord Alvanley is seriously indisposed at Badminton, where he has been for some weeks.

PROPOSED ARISTOCRATIC MARRIAGE.—It is said that a marriage is on the tapis between Viscount Castlereagh and the Viscountess Powerscourt.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

OXFORD.

Jan. 20.

The Dean of Christ Church has deprived the Rev. Thomas Edward Morris, M.A., Student of Christ Church and Tutor, of his Tutorship in that College. Mr. Morris is brother of the Mr. Morris, of Exeter College, who has just gone over to the Romish Church. The Dean, it is said, being anxious to protect the young men of the College from Romish influences, called on Mr. Morris to sign the 39 articles, which Mr. Morris said he had lately done in the sense of *Tract No. 90*. Hence the deprivation alluded to.

CAMBRIDGE.

Jan. 21.

BROWNE'S SCHOLARSHIP.—Brookley Davies, of Queen's College, has just been elected to a Scholarship on the foundation of Sir William Browne, M.D.

CHRIST'S COLLEGE.—The prizes for Michaelmas Term have been awarded to George Howson, for Latin prose; and Richard N. Phillips, for Latin verse.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER AGAINST THE CORN-LAWS.—On Tuesday evening a numerous meeting of the inhabitants of the City of Westminster was held in the Crown and Anchor Tavern, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning the Legislature for a total and immediate repeal of the Corn-laws. Every part of the great room was filled, and amongst the gentlemen on the platform were Mr. M. Gibson, M.P., Dr. Bowring, M.P., Sir C. Napier, M.P., the Hon. E. Bouverie, M.P., Mr. Thorneley, M.P., General De Lacy Evans, &c. Resolutions against the Corn-laws were carried. Sir C. Napier M.P., in the course of his address analysed (amidst the laughter of the meeting) the speeches of the Dukes of Norfolk and Rutland, and a letter to the meeting at Chichester by Lord March, whom he styled "the son of the Protector-General." He was glad to see that the agricultural labourers had at last found out that they were not so well off as they ought to be, and he hoped the example set at Goat-acre would spread.

IMPORTANT FREE-TRADE MEETING IN MARYLEBONE.—On Tuesday evening an immense assemblage of the inhabitants of Marylebone was held at the Riding School, Albany-street, Regent's-park, for the purpose of allowing them to express their opinions on the Corn-laws at the present crisis. Upwards of 5000 persons were present, including the leading gentlemen of the locality. The chair was filled by Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., who stated that 34 years' experience of public events had confirmed him in his opinion of the impolicy of commercial restrictions. Professor Keye moved the first resolution—"That this meeting enters its solemn protest against the Corn-laws, and urges their total, immediate, and unconditional repeal." Mr. R. Moore addressed the meeting for some time. He remarked that the perseverance of the advocates of free-trade in corn was about to be crowned with success. Sir R. Peel had now repudiated protection. Mr. Moore then said the allegations made by the Protectionists were absurd; they were charges without an attempt at proof. In his opinion, the farmer was just as anxious as the manufacturer to be left, for subsistence, to the fair exercise of, and return for, his own capital and ingenuity. In reference to the League, Mr. Moore said that unless it had been honest, it would not have gained the voice and respect of the people of England. The resolution was agreed to, and also one of thanks to the League, for their attention to the registration of electors, and of congratulation on the progress of the 40s. freehold movement.

REPEAL OF THE WINDOW DUTIES.—Last Saturday evening a very numerous meeting of the delegates from the various metropolitan parishes, appointed last year, took place at the Court-house, Marylebone, at which a memorial to Sir R. Peel was unanimously agreed to, urging the expediency of including a total repeal of the window duties in the financial scheme of the year.

GRAND DINNER AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress gave a splendid entertainment on Tuesday to the Aldermen and their ladies, and several private friends. The conviviality of the Mansion House, since the new Mayoralty commenced, have been almost daily, and upon the most magnificent and hospitable scale. Every Alderman in town was at the dinner on Tuesday, and a number of ladies graced the table.

THE PRICE OF BREAD IN THE METROPOLIS.—The price of bread in the East end of the metropolis has, within the last two or three days, been raised from 9d. to 9½d. for the best, and from 8d. to 8½d. per 4lb. loaf of an inferior quality. On the Surrey side of the river, the price remains as before, viz., best, 9d.; second ditto, 8d.; some is sold as high as 10d. In the neighbourhood of Chelsea and Brompton, the price of bread is, with very few exceptions, 10d. According to the present price of bread, it is nearly twice as dear as it was this time last year.

MILDNESS OF THE SEASON.—Covent-garden on Wednesday assumed quite a spring-like appearance. Primroses, violets (sweet scented), cowslips, anemones, and many of the flowers which bloom usually in the month of February, were presented for sale in high perfection, the colours being good, and the scent powerfully odiferous. The growers say that the gardens give, at present, great promise of an abundant quantity of apple and pear blossoms, and if the buds are not cut off by blight or frost a great supply of both may be expected.

ANOTHER SUPPOSED ACCOUNT OF THE LOST "PRESIDENT" STEAMER.—The *Madrid Gazette* of the 13th inst. states that the Minister of the Interior had received a communication from the Political Chief of Guipuzcoa, announcing that a bottle had been found floating in the water near Motrico, containing a paper, of the contents of which the following words only could be deciphered:—"Ship *President*. We are blocked up in ice, and we can't live much time.... Kind friend will acquaint our.... We are dying of hunger.... I am fainting.... If, if...." The bottle was found by some fishermen, and handed to the Alcalde of Motrico, a few leagues from San Sebastian. A copy of the paper has been communicated to the British Minister.

POSTSCRIPT.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.

BACHELOR'S COMMENCEMENT, JAN. 24, 1846.

Jan. 23.

EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

MODERATORS.		EXAMINERS.	
George Gabriel Stokes, M.A., Pembroke Col.	William Collings Mathison, M.A., Trinity Col.	Percival Frost, M.A., St. John's College	Harvey Goodwin, M.A., Caius College.
WRANGLERS.			
1 Hensley, Trin	11 Rigg, Joh	21 Wardale, Clara	30 Hole, Trin
2 Airey, Pemb	12 Knight, Trin	22 Wood, Joh	31 Holt, J. M., Joh
3 Bonington, Joh	13 Reynolds, Qu	23 Frost, Joh	32 Kingston, Calus
4 Sandmann, Qu	14 Pritchett, Corp	24 White, W. A., Joh	33 Helms, Trin
5 Fuller, Emm	15 Woodrow, Cai	25 Haworth, Trin	34 Bell, Joh
6 Hoare, Joh	16 Howard, Sidney	26 Simpson, Jesus	35 Willink, Joh
7 Wilbraham, Trin	17 Hunt, Corpus	27 Warner, Trin	36 Scott, Calus
8 Badd, Calus	18 Glover, Trin	28 Birch, Christ's	37 Hammill, Pemb
9 Cooper, Joh	19 Coombe, Pet	29 Sutton, Calus	38 Beloe, Corpus
10 Bower, Joh	20 Matthews, Joh		

SENIOR OPTIMES.		JUNIOR OPTIMES.	
1 Malone, Qu	12 Thomson, Jesus	21 Holmes, Joh	32 Farmer, Trin
2 Romanis, Emm	13 White, T., Joh	22 Holt, R., Joh	33 Hallam, Trin
3 Baird, Trin	14 Goodwin, Chr	23 Thwaytes, Chr	34 De Winton, Tr
4 Carroll, Pet	15 Hoets, Trin H	24 Leach, Trin	35 Standen, Trin
5 Bangham, Chr	16 De la Condamine, J	25 Picaire, Jes	36 Smith, Pemb
6 Hayland, Joh	17 Galt, Joh	26 Hanceck, Trin	37 Fenn, Trin
7 Watson, Calus	18 Lushington, Tr	27 Goddard, Sid	38 Fenner, Joh
8 Eastwood, Joh	19 Fairhead, Qu	28 Pepps, Trin	39 Wright, Trin
9 Stocks, Joh	20 Baker, Christ's	31 Cross, Trin	40 Hodgson, Cath
10 Drew, Sidney	21 Sheddin, Pet		41 Towns, Joh
11 Fakenham, Cai			

DEGREES ALLOWED.		BEGROT.	
1 Evans, Corpus	13 Ballene, Pemb	14 Tait, Joh	36 Wade, Trin
2 Vassall, Joh	14 Thomson, Sidney	15 Wise, Clara	37 Clarke, Joh
3 Cattley, Joh	15 Daunes, Calus	27 Trevor, Corpus	38 Wallich, Trin
4 Hastings, Trin	16 Jones, Joh	28 Alderson, Calus	39 Church, Trin
5 Warner, Trin	17 Slipper, Emm	29 Wroth, Joh	40 Furnivall, Trin H
6 Mackley, Trin	18 Archer, Jesus	30 Scynour, Trin	41 Anslie, Trin
7 Cobbold, Pemb	19 Humble, Joh	31 Probyn, Joh	42 Geldart, Trin H
8 Brown, Pemb	20 Veasey, Emm	32 Blackett, Joh	43 Joplin, Queen's
9 Badger, Trin H	21 Grignon, Trin	33 Pynes, Emm	44 Nourse, Calus
10 Norris, Trin	22 Sargeant, Joh	34 Wilson, Christ's	45 Howe, Joh
11 Williams, Qu	23 Taylor, Queen's	35 Smith, C. F., Tri	46 Dixon, Trin
12 Clarkson, Emm	24 Haslewood, Joh		

FATAL AFFRAY BETWEEN GAMEKEEPERS AND POACHERS.—A dreadful encounter took place on Wednesday morning, on the grounds of the Earl of Morley, at Saltram, near Plymouth, between a party of poachers, ten in number, and his Lordship's gamekeepers. An unfortunate keeper, named Cottell, pursued them for some time, when one of the poachers levelled his gun, fired, and the keeper dropped down, and immediately expired. A man named Reed, a sawyer, of Plymouth, has been captured as being one of the party, and has undergone an examination before the magistrates, at the Prince George Inn, Ridgway. An Inquest was to be held on the body of the gamekeeper.

ANOTHER MURDER IN TIPPERARY.—Accounts have been received of another murder committed in the County of Tipperary. The victim was a poor peasant named Murphy, who had recently assisted—for payment—a bailiff to levy a distress on a defaulting tenant of Mrs. Hartford, of Tramore. As he was entering his wretched hut, on Saturday night, he received a bullet in his lungs. The description of the scene that ensued is melancholy indeed—"He ran into his house, the blood gushing from the wound, exclaiming to his wretched wife and children, 'I am killed, I am killed.' He suddenly rallied, and made to the door, where he saw Dunn, the man whom he had aided to distract, his servant, named Meagher, who fired the shot, and a third man. These three were arrested within an hour after the perpetration of the crime, and fully identified by the dying man." Dunn, it appears, owed a year's rent and arrears, amounting to £90. This terrible murder was committed at Coolarkin, between Carrick-on-Suir and Clonmel.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.—The *Times* says:—"Letters from our private correspondent at Marseilles announce that a division of the French army in Algeria, under the command of General Levasseur, and consisting of 2,500 men, had, whilst making a razzia in the province of Constantine, been overtaken by a snow storm on the night of the 3rd inst., when the greater part of the division perished from the intensity of the cold." We see no notice of this disastrous circumstance in the French papers, and, therefore, there is some hope that there may be some mistake or exaggeration in the account.

OPENING OF THE VENICE AND VICENZA RAILWAY.—The railroad between Venice and Vicenza, which passes over the magnificent bridge thrown across the Lagunes, and the three other bridges over the rivers Tessina, Boghiglière, and Retrone, and through two tunnels near Vicenza, was opened on the 4th inst. The departure took place from Venice a few minutes before ten in the morning, and passed the bridge across the Lagunes in eight minutes—a distance which is not accomplished by a gondola in so little time as an hour. The whole journey to Vicenza was performed in a little less than two hours. The weather was fine, the road was found to be perfect, and the departure and arrival of the train were hailed with loud cheers by a large concourse of persons, assembled at both ends.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Letters from Athens of the 5th instant, state that the candidate for the Presidency, nominated by the Coletti Cabinet, had been elected by a large majority, which had given great delight to the friends of the Government.

The Brussels papers state that a frightful accident occurred at Dixmude, (Belgium) on the 13th of this month. A part of the hospital fell down, and buried seven persons in the ruins; two were killed on the spot, the five others were extricated more or less hurt.

Advices from Rome state that a Consistory was to be held on the 19th of this month, when the Patriarch of Lisbon, Archbishop of Aix, and Archbishop of Naples were to be created Cardinals. The Roman Court had just received the resignation of M. Dupuch, Bishop of Algiers, who, it appears, is about to retire to a convent of La Trappe.

We have intelligence from New Zealand to the 25th August. At that date affairs there were a gloomy and ominous appearance. John Hekei was still unconquered, and likely to remain so. He had had the impudence to send word to the governor, that unless the troops were sent to fight him at the Bay of Islands, he would come and attack Auckland. To avert the fulfilment of this threat, the troops had been sent round in the *Harvard* and *Daphne*.

Captain Twopenny, whom our readers will recollect as the companion of Sir Lawrence Jones, Bart., when that gentleman was killed by the banditti, on his road from Macri to Smyrna, and who was himself also wounded, reached Malta on the 25th of December, from Constantinople, and purposed leaving for Naples the second week in January.

A letter from Alexandria, dated Dec. 30, says:—"A few days ago a fine large steam-frigate arrived from Constantinople, having on board the Ambassador sent by the Sultan to assist at the marriage festivities of Mehemet Ali's daughter. The presents consist of a handsome sword set in diamonds to the Viceroy from the Sultan, who sent to the bridegroom a snuff-box and a Turkish pipe, both richly studded with precious stones, and to the bride a magnificent tiara or diadem. The Sultan's mother sent two splendid pipes, a rosary, and a bouquet of precious stones to the young couple."

The *Flower of Yarrow* yacht, belonging to the Marquis of Conyngham, caught fire in the Custom-house docks, Dublin, last week, and was damaged to the extent of between £500 and £1000. A package of blue lights ignited, and communicated with a canister of gunpowder, which blew up with great violence.

Letters from Reikiavik (Iceland), state that Mount Hecla has resumed its eruptions, and that they are as violent as ever. A considerable number of ashes had fallen in the neighbourhood of the above town.

The *Cologne Gazette* of the 16th, asserts that the marriage of the Prince Royal of Wurtemberg with the Grand Duchess Olga, daughter of the Emperor of Russia, has been fully decided on, and that the Prince is shortly to pay a visit to the Empress and the Grand Duchess, at Palermo.

Accounts from Stockholm of the 30th of December state, that Sweden is suffering severely from the effects of scarcity of provisions. The greatest alarm lest a complete famine might ensue was felt in many parts, particularly in Upland. The Government had made large purchases of corn from Russia, and had likewise afforded pecuniary relief to the suffering peasantry. So urgent had been the distress, that the troops had been employed to break the ice, for the sake of facilitating the approach of corn-laden ships.

On the 9th inst. a dreadful fire broke out in the celebrated woollen cloth manufactory, at Luckenwalde, (Prussia). The town itself was in great danger, but was happily saved. The manufactory is totally destroyed; it is said to be insured for 200,000 dollars.

According to the last arrivals from the French colonies, the rupture with Madagascar has caused a considerable rise in the price of provisions. The Mauritius and Bourbon have always been supplied with meat from Madagascar, and meat became so scarce that the Colonial Council had been obliged to grant premiums of from 40s. to 120s. a head, according to the distances, for cattle brought from the Cape, Persia, and India.

Ibrahim Pacha, according to a letter from Vernet, in the *Independent des Pyrenées*, is daily improving in health. He receives numerous visitors, all of whom speak highly of the amiability of his character and many of his generosity. On Twelfth-day his Highness had the cake and drew for the bean, which he gained, and having chosen a Queen, ordered champagne to be served round to the party.

The King of Hanover, according to the latest accounts received in town, is nearly recovered from his recent indisposition.

We have accounts from Constantinople of the 31st December, from which we learn that Vedghli Pacha, the Governor of Seida, had been deposed, and Kiamli Pacha, formerly Ambassador at Berlin, put in his place. The latter is described as decidedly anti-Russian. The Porte had sent another Commissioner to Syria, Emir Pacha, one of the most enlightened and best educated men in the empire.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

LIABILITY OF PROVISIONAL RAILWAY COMMITTEES.

In the Court of EXCHEQUER, on Tuesday, a case was tried, *Barnett v. Burdett*, in order to test the liability of gentlemen forming the provisional committees of railway companies.

Mr. Jervis (with whom was Mr. Atherton) conducted the case for the plaintiff, and Mr. Martin appeared for the defendant.

The action was brought to recover the sum of £172 10s. 6d. for stationery, printing, and other articles supplied to the Irish West Coast Railway Company, and of which the defendant was one of the provisional committee, and afterwards one of the committee of management.

The defendant pleaded that he did not promise.

Mr. Jervis said the plaintiff was a stationer and printer carrying on business in the City. The defendant was William Jones Burdett, a gentleman of considerable property and standing in the world. The company was called "The Irish West Coast Railway," in which, if he were to be guided by the distinguished names on the committee and the distinguished description they had put forth in their prospectus, he should strongly recommend the gentlemen on the jury to make an investment of any spare cash they might possess. Among the articles supplied was all the scrip. It would be proved that the defendant had been a constant attendant at the office, and had been actively engaged in the management of the affairs of the company. The defendant, too, was a party to a resolution by which it was agreed that all the expenses were to be paid out of the first deposits that were received. The plaintiff supplied all the scrip and the prospectuses; and in the latter it was set forth that the population to whom this projected railway would afford facilities exceeded a million. It happened, however, that the company fell into arrear of rent to the extent of £15, and the result was that the landlord was compelled to distrain, and he seized the whole of the scrip. The entire property of the company was seized—books, pens, ink, paper, and the other articles which had been furnished by the plaintiff. The learned counsel then called.

William Campbell, Esq., who stated that he was not one of the projectors of the company in question, but he was a member of the provisional committee, and also one of the directors. He did not become either, however, until after the company had been formed, which he thought was in the month of October last. In that month he became a managing director; offices were taken for the company at No. 10, Old Jewry Chambers. It was called the Irish West Coast Railway Company. He knew both the plaintiff and the defendant. The latter attended from time to time at the offices. There was an acting committee. The defendant attended regularly after the 22nd of October. Had not seen him at the offices before that time, but had met him at the office of the company's solicitor when the formation of the directory was in progress. After that the prospectus was printed and sent forth to the public. There were some thousands of them lying about the offices, and any person who called there could see them. The defendant was at the offices during that period. The plaintiff supplied the company with stationery.

Other witnesses were called, from whose evidence it appeared that the defendant had himself applied to be placed on the provisional committee; that he, in common with other directors, was to be paid from two to three guineas for each attendance, and that the liabilities of the company amounted to £8,000, though they had not sold a single share.

Mr. Martin addressed the Jury for the defendant, and commented severely on the fact of one of the ex-directors being brought forward as the principal witness against him.

Mr. Baron Alderson observed that no possible doubt could exist as to the liability of the defendant. He became responsible from the day when he consented to act on the provisional committee, and that was on the 16th of October. The defendant was liable to all the contracts from that day which had been entered into for the purposes of the company, whilst the party who made those contracts for the company was in the position of the agents of the committee. For any debts incurred before the 16th of October the defendant could not be held liable.

The Jury thereupon at once gave a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £119 10s.

Mr. Baron Alderson said it was of no use to read a lesson to some parties, for they would, notwithstanding, place their heads through a halter. The present action, however, might do some good, for it would show them of what foolishness they had been guilty.

It may be all very well for Mr. Baron Alderson to cast censure upon gentlemen who have served upon Provisional Committees; but, if the spirit of commercial enterprise had been checked, in the first instance, by such off-hand remarks, the country would at this time have been without the immense advantages of Railway communication. Mr. Baron Alderson is fond of a joke—we have heard him indulge in witticisms in a case of life or death; but hasty or jocular remarks upon serious matters, may sometimes do much harm, and cannot do any good. A great deal of money has already been lost by individuals of character, who embarked in Railways with fair intentions, and in a legitimate spirit of speculation; and it is rather hard that they should be subjected to ill-considered sarcasms, having no reference to the justice of the case.

DISPUTES WITH RAILWAY COMPANIES.—A long argument has taken place in the VICE CHANCELLOR'S COURT, in the case of *Parsons v. Spooner*. It appeared that the plaintiff filed his bill, alleging that he had taken a very active part in the formation of the Southampton, Manchester, and Oxford Junction Railway Company, and he claimed a lien upon the deposits, in respect of his professional fees and disbursements. The defendants, who were the members of the provisional committee, and the directors of the Company, demurred to the bill, for want of equity, and for want of parties. Sir J. Wigram, in giving his decision, said he was very glad to have been able to find grounds satisfactory to himself for overruling the demurrer upon both points, without giving any opinion upon the very important point of law which had been argued before him.

MR. GIBBS, THE MONEY-LENDER.—In the INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT, on Wednesday, the case of this well-known money scrivener and bill discounter was concluded. His name has been before the public in reference to the proceedings in bankruptcy, and on being refused application for his certificate by the Court, he had, on being taken in execution, applied to this Court, and now appeared for examination. The schedule filed by the insolvent is an extraordinary document, exceeding 100 pages of parchment. The debts in the aggregate are set forth at £302,000, of which sum £81,000 were without consideration, and £90,000 more than once entered, leaving the actual debts somewhere about £126,000. On the other side, the credits were stated at £45,000. The insolvent was subjected to a searching examination by the Court, in the course of which he admitted that he had been intrusted with money by clients to invest, but had not done so; he had likewise applied money to his own uses. The Learned Chief Commissioner, after adverting to the peculiar circumstances of the case, ordered the insolvent to be remanded for three months, under the discretionary clause.

IRELAND.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—On Monday there was a very crowded meeting at the Conciliation Hall; probably, the number of artisans and labourers present fell little short of 1800. Mr. O'Connell's speech was chiefly remarkable for some coarse comments upon the Duke of Cambridge.

ANOTHER MURDER.—The *Waterford Chronicle*, of Saturday last, contains an account of the murder of an old man named Walshe, and the grievous wounding of his two sons, who are considered in a hopeless state. The deceased and his sons were proceeding from Waterford to Curraghmore in the county Kilkenny, about ten o'clock on Thursday night, when they were attacked by four men, who committed fearful havoc upon them. The ruffians were arrested, and he who inflicted the wounds of which old Walshe died was identified by the survivors. The names of the prisoners are Grant (the principal), Halligan, Bryan, and Power.

INCREASE IN THE ARMY.—It is reported, that an increase in the army, to the extent of 6000 men, will be proposed to Parliament. It is said that the Duke of Wellington was anxious to add 10,000 men to our military force, but that his Grace's opinion was overruled in the Cabinet.

THE SECOND REGIMENT OF FOOT.—The 2d, or Queen's Royal Regiment of Foot, are about to be presented with a new set of colours. This gallant corps embarked for foreign service in 1825, proceeding to India, where they remained until a short time since.

THE CASE OF THE SHIP "TORY."—Captain Johnstone, who stands charged with three murders on board the ship *Tory*, on her voyage from Hong-Kong to London, and also with cutting and wounding twelve of the crew, has nearly recovered from his severe illness, and he will be tried at the ensuing sessions of the Central Criminal Court, which commence on Feb. 2. All the wounded men have recovered, except Gair, who received twenty-five sabre cuts about the head, face, and body, and Morris, the Frenchman, who was shot by the captain. It has been resolved that three bills for wilful murder, and twelve for cutting and wounding, shall be presented to the Grand Jury. The prisoner has become more cheerful of late, and does not betray the least symptoms of a disordered intellect. The Attorney-General and other learned counsel will conduct this important prosecution on the part of the Crown.

Letters from Warsaw state, that the Emperor Nicholas, in his passage through that capital, had treated Prince Paskewitz with great coolness, and had even expressed to him his disapprobation of the late political arrests.

BIRTHS.

At Lisbon, the lady of W. R. Ward, Esq., attached to her Majesty's Legation at that Court, of a daughter.—The lady of the Rev. Robert William Hippisley, of a son.—At Tunbridge Wells, the lady of Arthur W. Ward, Esq., of a daughter.—At Brighton, Mrs. Francis Sheriff, of a son.—At Castle Connell, the lady of John Stephen Dwyer, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At Horsham, the Rev. Jarvis Kenrie, M.A., to Elizabeth Fraser, widow of George Fraser, Esq.—At Brighton, the Reverend Richard Watts, B.A., to Elizabeth Anna, eldest daughter of the Rev. Edward H. Hoare.—At the New Church, St. Pancras, Robert Redman, Esq., of Bermondsey, to Mrs. Little, of Camden-town.—At St. James's, Paddington, Frederick Edward Chapman, Esq., to Ann Weston, eldest daughter of William Cox, Esq.

DEATHS.

At Skilton, near Boroughbridge, the Rev. Isaac Crakell, aged 78.—At Exeter, Captain Gilbert Wakefield, late of her Majesty's 36th Foot.—At Mersham House, near Southampton, the Rev. Ernie Kyrie Money, M.A.—At Leamington Spa, Lady Anne Wardlaw Ramsay.—At Rye-common, Peckham, Thomas Cox Savory, of Cornhill.—On the 18th ultimo, suddenly, whilst preaching a funeral sermon in the parish church of Spaxton, of which place he was Rector, the Rev. William

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT, BY HER MAJESTY.

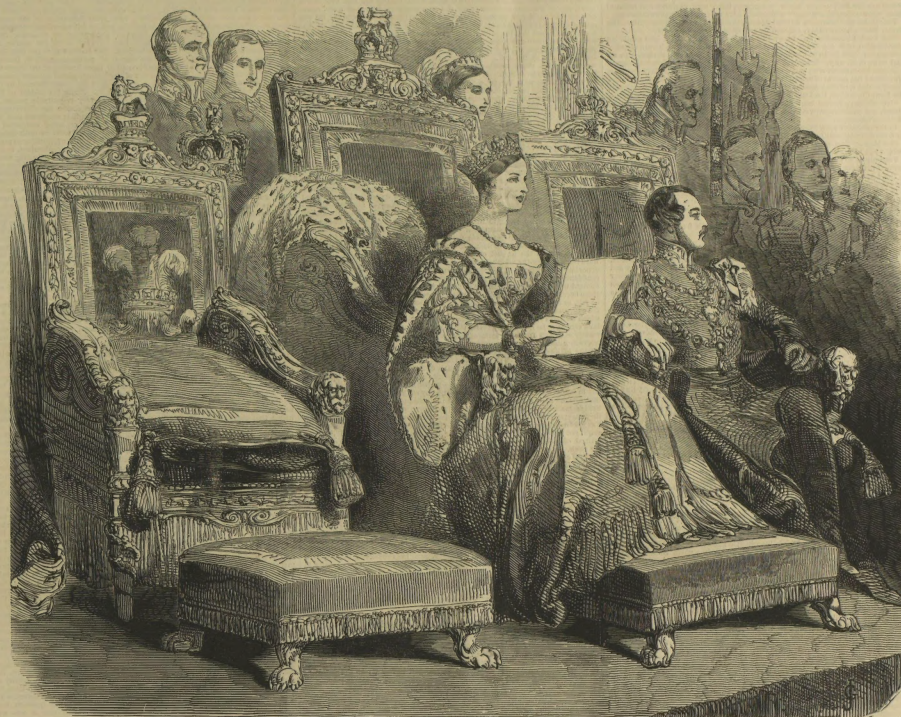


HER MAJESTY'S ARRIVAL AT THE HOUSE OF LORDS



THE PROCESSION TO THE ROBING ROOM—HOUSE OF LORDS

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT, BY HER MAJESTY.



THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.



OPENING OF THE SESSION OF PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Session of Parliament was opened on Thursday, with the usual formalities. Soon after twelve o'clock the gallery was crowded with beauty and fashion, and before one the body of the house was nearly filled with Peers and ladies of rank, whose splendid attire gave additional lustre to their personal attractions.

The Duke of Wellington entered the house about a quarter before one. His Grace, we are happy to say, appeared in excellent health and spirits. The Lord Chancellor arrived shortly afterwards, by whom he was speedily surrounded. The Duke of Cambridge, with his usual freedom, chatted with all that came in his way. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Prince George.

About ten minutes after two a discharge of artillery and a flourish of trumpets announced the arrival of her Majesty, who shortly afterwards entered the house, accompanied by Prince Albert, preceded by the heralds, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Wellington, and other great officers of state.

Her Majesty, having ascended the throne, requested their Lordships to be seated, and a messenger was then despatched to require the attendance of the House of Commons.

In the course of a few minutes the Speaker advanced to the bar, accompanied by a considerable number of members.

Her Majesty then read, in her usual emphatic manner, her gracious Speech (which will be found on the first page.)

Precisely at 25 minutes past two, her Majesty retired, and their Lordships adjourned until five o'clock.

The Lord Chancellor resumed his seat on the woolsack at that hour, when the Session was formally opened by

The Duke of Wellington moving the first reading of a bill to regulate select vestries.

Earl Grey, Earl Pomfret, the Bishop of Oxford, the Earl of Verulam, and Earl Spencer, took the oaths and their seats.

The Lord Chancellor then read her Majesty's Speech from the Woolsack; it having been again read by the Clerk at the table.

THE ADDRESS.

The Earl of HOME, who moved the Address in answer to her Majesty's Speech, congratulated their Lordships and the country upon the statement her Majesty had been enabled to make of peace throughout the world. The longer it lasted, the greater the blessing. The noble Earl, in conclusion, thanked their Lordships for the attention they had shown him, and moved an Address, which was nearly an echo of the Speech from the Throne.—Lord DE ROS seconded the motion.—The Lord Chancellor then put the question, and declared that the Contents had it.—After a few seconds, the Duke of RICHMOND rose and said: I am not at all surprised to see the desire which has been evinced to suppress discussion upon—The Lord Chancellor: I beg the noble Duke will not state that. I waited deliberately for a few minutes; and, finding that the noble Duke was not inclined to rise, I put the question, and put it slowly.—The Duke of RICHMOND: I am perfectly in order. I should have listened with satisfaction to the speech of the noble Lord who moved the Address, if he had not in part of his speech remarked that we should wait until we heard the statement of the Minister. I have heard, my Lords, enough in that Address to know what the Minister intends to do. (Hear, hear.) He intends to withdraw protection. (Interruptions.) I should like to have heard a more manly speech, and that he had mentioned the Corn-laws at once. I defy noble Lords to say that the Speech just read does not relate to the Corn-laws. This is getting rid of the compact which Sir R. Peel made in 1842 with the agriculturists, and which Mr. Gladstone, Secretary of State, said removed difficulties, and was made for the purpose of securing to the agriculturists a permanent law. It was to secure that permanent law that the agriculturists acquiesced in that sacrifice. (Hear, hear.) I hope this House will not so far abandon its duty as to permit itself to be intimidated by the Anti-Corn-law League, or by the money that body has raised. But what is the time the Government asks us to make this sacrifice to popular clamour? We find that Sir Robert Peel has not produced tranquillity in Ireland; but that, on the contrary, murders and assassinations continue to take place every day. (Hear, hear.) In this speech, Sir Robert Peel comes to us, and asks us to give way, and alter those laws which every man knows are for the benefit, not of the agriculturists alone, but of every class in the community. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") My Lords, I for one will not give your Lordships the trouble of voting upon an amendment upon the present occasion; but I beg to enter my solemn protest against that part of her Majesty's Speech which threatens the ruin of the agricultural interests, and this House, I think, is entitled to know the reasons why they have come to such a decision.—The Duke of WELLINGTON: The noble Duke has complained of the omission of all allusion to the Corn-laws in the Speech from the Throne. My Lords, it is not necessary in this House to follow my noble friend in his observations on the conduct of the Ministry. (Hear, hear.) Nor do I think it necessary to make any allusions to the Address moved by my noble friend, as I beg to inform your Lordships those measures will be brought before the House in a very few days. (Hear, hear, hear.)—Lord STANLEY said: Although he had the permission of her Majesty to make any statement in reference to the subject that was under the consideration of the House, in reference to the circumstances connected with his resignation, he thought the present time was not a proper one for going into explanations. Still, without going into details, he would state briefly the reason why he had separated from those colleagues with whom he had acted for the last four years. Although differences had existed which led to his separation from the Ministry, he still entertained for those with whom he had hitherto co-operated, the most unfeigned regard and esteem. (Hear, hear.) He would only make the statement that on one measure, and one only, there was a difference between himself and his colleagues. On all the others they were agreed. The measure to which he referred had relation to the degree and nature of protection that was to be afforded to the agricultural interest. (Hear, hear.)—Lord BROUGHAM rose, also, to express the gratification which he experienced at the course which Government had pledged themselves to adopt with regard to America. He also approved of the principles announced with respect to Free-trade, and entered at some length into the arguments in support of it. But he disapproved altogether of the proceedings of the body known as the League. He disapproved of its creation of votes by the thousand. He granted that the creation of 40s. freeholds was perfectly legal; but he held the wholesale exercise of that legal right to be very unconstitutional. The Sovereign could legally create a battalion of five hundred Peers and march them into the house to swamp the deliberations of their Lordships; but the Chancellor who should dare to put the great seal to those patents, would deserve to be brought to the block; the legal measure would be a most unconstitutional one. He also denounced the raising of large sums of money by any associated bodies except Parliament to be highly unconstitutional and dangerous as tending to foster agitation, and to induce men to engage in it as a trade. He wished to see the country governed by the Crown, Lords, and Commons, and not to have those authorities forced into measures by continual agitation and the force of pressure from without.—After a short discussion, the question was put, and the Address, in reply to the Queen's Speech, was agreed to without opposition.

On the motion of the Duke of WELLINGTON, the usual sessional orders were agreed to. The Earl of Shaftesbury was, for the thirty-third year, appointed Chairman of the Lords' Committees.

Their Lordships then adjourned during pleasure, in order to receive from her Majesty a notification of the time she would be pleased to receive the Address.

After the lapse of a short interval, the Earl of DELAWARE entered the House, and informed their Lordships, by command of her Majesty, that half-past two on Saturday had been appointed as the hour of receiving the Address from their Lordships.

The House then adjourned till one o'clock on Saturday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The SPEAKER took the chair at half-past one o'clock. At a quarter past two o'clock the attendance of Members was very considerable.

Soon afterwards Sir A. Clifford appeared at the bar, and summoned the House to the House of Lords, to hear her Majesty's most gracious Speech from the Throne on the opening of the session.

On its return of the Speaker the House adjourned until four o'clock.

When the House re-assembled, and the Speaker having taken the chair, the new Members for Wigan, Windsor, Walsal, Southwark, Warwickshire, Antrim County (Ireland), Woodstock, Hereford, and Hertfordshire, took the oaths and their seats.

NEW WRITS.—Upon the motion of Mr. YOUNG, a new writ was moved for for the boroughs of Selkirk and Newark, and also for the shire of Bute, in the room of the Hon. James Stuart Wortley, who had accepted the office of her Majesty's Judge-Advocate-General.—Mr. TUFNELL moved for the issue of a new writ for the West Riding of Yorkshire, in the room of the Hon. Mr. Wortley, now Lord Wharfedale. The same hon. member moved for the issue of a new writ for the City of Cork, in the room of Mr. Sergeant Murphy, who had accepted the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds; also for the issue of a new writ for the borough of Cashel, in the room of Dr. Stock, who had accepted the office of the Chiltern Hundreds.—Writs were also moved for the division of East Sussex, in the place of Mr. Darby, who has accepted a Commissionership in the service of her Majesty, and for Midhurst, in the place of Sir Horace Seymour, who has accepted the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds.

RAILWAY BILLS.—Sir R. PEEL—I wish to give notice, Sir, that I shall, on Monday next, move for the appointment of a Committee of the Whole House, with a view to ascertain the course which the House shall pursue, with respect to the bills which will be submitted during this session for the making of railways.

COMMERCIAL POLICY OF THE COUNTRY.—Sir R. PEEL—I also, Sir, beg to give notice that, on Tuesday next, I shall move for the appointment of a Committee to consider what should be the future commercial policy of the country.

THE FACTORY BILL.—Lord ASHLEY gave notice that on the 29th of this month he would move for leave to bring in a bill to limit to ten hours the time for children working in factories.

THE ADDRESS.

The Speaker then read her Majesty's Speech, after which Lord FRANCIS EGERTON rose to move the Address in reply.—Mr. E. B. DENISON seconded the Address, and in doing so expressed a hope that nothing would be left undone by this country to prevent a breach of the present friendly feeling with America, for no doubt the whole world would suffer by such a breach.

SIR ROBERT PEEL'S EXPLANATION.

Sir R. PEEL then rose, and said he felt that although the course he was about to pursue was unusual, yet he believed it would be consonant with the feelings of the House if he at once entered into an explanation of the causes which had led to the Ministerial changes that had recently taken place. He at once admitted that his opinions upon the subject of protective duties had undergone a

considerable change, and he must assert for himself the privilege of yielding to the force of argument, and of acting from the result of more enlarged experience. He did not wish to deprive those of any credit who were the first to contend against protective duties, but his own opinions had been modified by the results of the returns in all those instances in which protective duties had been relaxed. He had closely watched the operation of those duties during the last four or five years, and he was now convinced that the arguments in favour of their maintenance were no longer tenable. (Cheers from the Opposition benches.) He was convinced that low wages were not the result of low prices of food, and he was further convinced that the evils of a large debt and of high taxation did not render high protective duties requisite. On the contrary, the experience of three years of abundance and cheapness, proved that they were rather an alleviation, than otherwise, of the evil. For three years preceding those last past, prices were high while wages were low, while during the last three years prices were low while wages were high. It was impossible to resist the inference that wages did not fluctuate with the price of food, but were subject to the demand for labour, and other causes, having no connexion with the price of provisions. Since the year 1842, when the first invasion was made on the principle of protection, the exports of the country had risen from 42,000,000 to 47,000,000 in 1843, to 58,000,000 in 1844, and, leaving out the trade with China, the increase had been from 42,000,000 in 1842, to 46,000,000 in 1844, and to 56,000,000 in 1845. The results of the Revenue presented a similar picture. Reductions in the Customs and Excise had led to an increased degree of prosperity. The state of morality was also a gratifying result of increased prosperity. The commitments throughout the country had enormously decreased; and with regard to sedition and libel, the office of the Attorney-General had become a sinecure for the last two years. Employment and low prices must have contributed to this result. The right hon. Baronet next proceeded to show that in flax, wool, lard, and other articles, the increased imports of them from abroad, in consequence of the reduction of protective duties, had not lowered prices, which, on the contrary, were enormously increased in almost every instance, and more particularly in the three articles mentioned. Notwithstanding the conviction thus brought to his mind, yet he thought that he was not the person upon whom the proposition for him to meet the proposition of the hon. member for Wolverhampton with a direct negative—he felt he could not defend the Corn-laws on the ground of the country being highly taxed, or that they were necessary for the maintenance of high wages; but he wished to have the opportunity of stating to those friends who had so long honoured him with their confidence, that he could continue the contest no longer, and that another Parliament would have to consider the results of which were most threatening, and he felt, and he would at once proceed to the conclusion that the present Corn-laws could not be maintained. The right hon. Baronet then proceeded to read a variety of letters from all parts of Europe, and said that those letters and the reports of Messrs. Playfair, Lindley, &c., had caused him, on the 6th of November, to propose, either by Order in Council, or by calling Parliament together within a fortnight, to remove the restrictive duties on corn for a limited period, during which a settlement of the whole question might be determined upon by Parliament. He was prepared to take the responsibility of an Order in Council, and to follow the example of Belgium, which, by such a course, had in a short time cleared Liverpool of rice, and raised that article 75 per cent. in price in the British markets. His advice was taken by any conclusion. So far as he was personally concerned, he ought then to have resigned; but he felt that he ought not to evade a difficult duty, and he resolved to remain while a hope remained of inducing his colleagues to take his view of the question. On the 26th, he again urged his proposition on the attention of the Cabinet; but in the meantime his position had been changed by the appearance of the letter of Lord John Russell on the 22nd. He felt, on the 26th of November, that nothing but the support of a united Government would enable him to bring the settlement of the question to a successful issue, for they would appear to be servilely following the recommendation of the noble Lord, in his letter of the 22nd. Even then he would not have abandoned the task if he had been supported by a unanimous Cabinet. He had the misfortune to differ with one noble Lord for whom he entertained the highest esteem—Lord Stanley—who thought that the danger of the potato crop had been greatly magnified, and that there was no occasion for the Order in Council. Lord Stanley felt it his duty to resign, and as he was not the only Member of the Cabinet who took the same view of the subject, he (Sir R. Peel) thought it better to retire from the Government. His resignation was accepted by her Majesty, and he considered himself as a private Member, and he was prepared in that capacity to give every facility to any Government which might be formed for the settlement of the question of the Corn-laws. He remained under this impression until Saturday, the 20th of December, when, by command of her Majesty, he again waited upon her at Windsor, and was asked if he would persevere in his resignation. He at once replied that as Lord John Russell had not succeeded in the formation of a Ministry he would return to town, and endeavour to prevail on his colleagues to fall into his views. He did so, and his colleagues felt that, under the circumstances, it was their public duty to their country to assist him. He would not anticipate the discussion of Tuesday next, by then stating the nature of the proposition he had submitted to the Cabinet, but he would reply to the charge which had been made against him of treason to the agricultural interest, to which he would, indeed, have been a traitor had he called for public money to purchase oats, as a substitute for potatoes, while at the same time refusing all relaxation of protective duties. He had been taunted with owing obligations to those who had placed him in power, and who had it in their power to displace him if they chose. He wished it to be understood that he owed no obligation to any man or body of men, for compelling him to submit to the toils of office. He valued not power because it conferred the privilege of distributing honours, for that privilege of selection gave no pleasure, because its exercise inevitably occasioned more disappointments than conciliations. Personal objects he had none; he had served four Sovereigns, and had but one reward, that of being believed to be a loyal and faithful subject. The only value which he could perceive in the possession of power was the increased opportunities which it afforded of rendering service to the public according to his own opinions of necessity. He had never used power for any unworthy motive; his actions were consistent with true and comprehensive Conservative principles. His duties were far above his physical—still further above his mental powers, and to be relieved from them with honour would be the greatest boon which could be bestowed upon him; but he would never consent to remain Minister of the country with mutilated power and shackled authority. He would hold the office from no servile opinions, but only for the public interests, and to provide for the public security. (Great cheering.)—Lord JOHN RUSSELL entered into an explanation of the causes which had led him to write his letter to the electors of London. He thought, in the state of the potato crop, that Government was not doing its duty in not opening the ports; and it now appeared that the right hon. Baronet and three of his colleagues were of the same opinion. On the 8th of December he received the commands of her Majesty to wait upon her at Osborne House, and on the 10th, he was enabled to do so, when it was proposed to him to form an Administration. He at once told her Majesty that there were great difficulties in the way—that his friends were in a minority in both Houses of Parliament, and it would be, therefore, impossible to propose a settlement with any hope of success. Her Majesty immediately placed in his hands a letter from Sir R. Peel, stating his reasons for resigning, and also stating that, as a private member, he would give every facility to any Government which might be formed for the settlement of the question of the Corn-laws. He consulted with a few friends, and they all felt a desire to know the exact nature of the proposition which the right hon. Baronet had submitted to his Cabinet. He accordingly communicated with Sir Robert Peel, who gave him all the information which he himself possessed, but did not think it expedient to enter into the particulars of his proposition. Then came the question, whether they should submit their contemplated proposition to Parliament at once, or dissolve and call a new one. He (Lord John Russell) thought it better not to dissolve unless they could be certain of the support of the right hon. gentleman, and of a considerable number of his supporters. The right hon. Baronet, however, for reasons which he (Lord J. Russell) admitted to be cogent, thought it was not advisable that a person out of the service of the Crown should be consulted. He again consulted with his friends on the measure which the right hon. Baronet had intended to propose for the settlement of the question, that measure being contained in his letter to her Majesty. It was a present suspension of the Corn-laws, and their total repeal at no distant period, by a gradual reduction of duty; this gradual reduction, he thought, would be an advantage more apparent than real to the landlord. He, however, stated to her Majesty all the difficulties of his position, and her Majesty replied, by saying that she had sent his letter to Sir R. Peel, who had replied by saying that he would support a proposition for the settlement of the question. The rumours were utterly unfounded that he could not obtain the consent of those he had consulted. When he next attended her Majesty, she gave him a letter from Sir R. Peel, in which he stated that as regarded supporting a total and immediate repeal of the Corn-laws, he did not think that he ought to be fettered by such a pledge. In consequence of that letter he undertook the formation of the Government, though he felt that he was incurring a great risk, for if they failed they would be exposed to the charge of having undertaken what they were unable to perform. The following day, however, he had to communicate to his colleagues a letter he had received from Lord Grey stating reasons why he could not join the Administration. With great respect for the ability, courage, and honesty of Lord Grey, this alone would not have caused him to give up; but when he remembered that he was the first amongst them all in that House to declare himself in favour of free trade in corn, he felt that all kinds of interpretations would be put upon his absence from the Government. He therefore wrote to her Majesty, informing her of the impossibility which he found in his way of forming a Ministry. His proposal would have been a repeal of the Corn-laws without gradation or delay, but accompanied with the removal of some of the burdens pressing upon agriculture. He felt the deepest gratitude to her Majesty for her kindness during these negotiations, and also the right hon. Baronet, for his spontaneous offer of support, in the first instance, and there was nothing in his subsequent letters which at all increased the difficulties of his position. The noble Lord concluded by stating that his only regret for not having succeeded in forming a Ministry was, that he was thereby prevented from bringing forward a measure which he believed would have conducted to the happiness of the people of Ireland.—Mr. DISRAELI then addressed the House in a speech of considerable ability, and replete with personal acerbities towards Sir R. Peel, for having, as he (Mr. Disraeli) alleged, betrayed those who had placed him in power for the sole purpose of maintaining the principle of protection.

After some further discussion, the Address was carried without opposition; and the House adjourned at ten o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

The House was for some time occupied with the consideration of the usual standing orders.

RAILWAY DEPOSITS.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL wished to know from the right hon. gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether the amount of the deposits on Railway Bills had yet been taken into consideration. Last year the amount paid in was £23,000,000, but this year it was calculated that £29,000,000 would be the sum; and that amount might cause a very great depression in the money market.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he felt exceedingly obliged to the noble Lord for having given him an opportunity of removing from the public mind any doubt that might have existed as to the course the Government intended to pursue on this subject. The House was aware that, by a resolution of the standing orders of the House, all parties engaged in Railway speculations were bound to pay a deposit equal to three-fourths of the whole expense of the undertaking. And by an Act of Parliament, passed a recent Session, the parties making the deposit had a right to have the money invested by the Accountant-General in any way they should think fit. About the middle of November last, an application had been made to him by very respectable parties in London, that a definite answer should be given as to the course the Government intended to pursue in reference to that order; and it was then suggested that the resolution should be so altered, that parties, instead of being compelled to invest their deposits in Exchequer-bills, or Government Stock, or India Bonds, should be allowed to invest in bills of exchange. To the application so made he gave an answer, which he had resolved upon after due consideration, to the effect that he could not give an assurance of any alteration in the standing order in question. Under these circumstances, he did not feel justified in holding out any hope that any proposal for an alteration of the standing order in question would be held out, or that he would not resist any such proposal if it should be made. He had every reason to believe that the difficulties apprehended from the order as it now stood were not founded in fact, and that, therefore, he would not be justified in acceding to an alteration of the order.—Mr. MASTERMAN said, that as he had enjoyed the honour of being the medium of communication between the parties referred to and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he felt it necessary to state that when he went to the Government to obtain some definite understanding respecting the railway deposits, he did so from an impression that the question of the mode in which they were to be received most deeply affected the commercial interests. He must acknowledge that this interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer was anything but satisfactory. The answer he had received left the matter quite in as much doubt as it was before, and it was of more importance, as he knew that within the last fourteen days this matter had occasioned serious inconvenience to several gentlemen of high repute in commercial circles.

THE CORN LAWS.—On the question for bringing up the Report on the Address, Mr. COLQUHOUN said that he should crave the indulgence of the House for a few moments. He begged to express his opinions upon one of the questions raised last night, and he referred to the question of agricultural protection. He voted last year with the honourable member for Wolverhampton, with the opinion that the preservation of a moderate protective duty would be desirable for the country. It was not his intention to enter at length into the questions which had been introduced last night, either by the honourable member for South Lancashire, or the right honourable Baronet; his fingers certainly itched last night to be allowed to say a word.—(Laughter.)—upon some of the subjects advanced by the noble Lord. He heard also with surprise one statement of the right hon. gentleman at the head of her Majesty's Government, which he considered to be of paramount importance. On the subject of wages, he had often heard much better and much more able arguments. He only hoped that these distinguished leaders would indoctrinate their disciples with some better arguments. It might be right to repeal the Corn-laws, but do not repeal them upon false grounds. Do not repeal them on the maxim that wages have no connexion with the price of provisions. He had read that morning a speech of the hon. gentleman the member for Stockport, who stated at Manchester, that if the ports were to be opened now, it would be the best possible time, inasmuch as this country could get scarcely any provisions from abroad, because the whole world was contending for the stock of corn at present for sale in America. (Hear, hear, hear.) If, therefore, the right honourable Baronet's anxiety for the welfare of the population was to be relieved by the opening of the ports, he (Mr. Colquhoun) would say, that he hoped his anxiety would be relieved by some other mode. Sir R. Peel had evidently reconsidered his views with respect to political and other economy during the last three years. Mr. Colquhoun most energetically denounced Sir R. Peel for his inconsistency.—Mr. HUME defended Sir R. Peel from the charge, and gave his opinion that the course he proposed to pursue would advance the best interests of the country. He should give him his humble support. He approved of the Speech generally, and was sure the House of Commons would cheerfully vote money for the increase of our forces, if it should be found necessary to maintain the honour of the country.—Sir R. PEEL referred to the United States, and said that every effort would be made to preserve peace, consistent with the dignity of the country. (Hear, hear.) He was glad to anticipate, from what had fallen from Mr. Hume, that the House would cheerfully support the Government in any course which it felt right to pursue to maintain the honour of the country. At the same time, he should think it a great calamity if any rupture were to take place on account of the claims to the Oregon territory. He should not now discuss the Corn-laws, nor should he lose his temper from any attacks upon his consistency. He then defended the course he proposed to take, and said he believed it would be dangerous longer to delay a settlement of the Corn-laws. He deprecated the levity with which the statements about the disease in potatoes had been treated, and said the Government had received further communications, which made it regard the subject in a more serious light than before. He repeated that none of the attacks against him should disturb the equanimity of his temper; for he believed that in advising a settlement of the Corn-laws, he was acting for the best interests of the country.—Lord J. RUSSELL agreed with Sir Robert Peel in desiring a pacific settlement of the Oregon question and asked for some explanations upon this subject. He trusted that it was not from any apprehension of a rupture with the United States that the Government intended to increase our naval and military forces.—Sir R. PEEL said a proposal had been made by the Government of the United States to Mr. Pakenham, but it had been withdrawn by that gentleman. He (Sir R. Peel) thought it would have been better of that gentleman had transmitted it to our Government. We had, however, again repeated our offer to the United States to refer the matter to arbitration. No answer to this proposal had yet been received from the United States. As to the increase in our forces, it was required in consequence of the extension of our colonies. He had every confidence in foreign powers, but he did not think it right to neglect our defences. The country had a right to know the explanation of Sir R. Peel, nor could he understand why Lord J. Russell could not form a Ministry because Earl Grey differed from him. He was much pleased with Sir R. Peel's financial measures, and therefore he did not wish to run the risk of changing the present state of prosperity.—After some further discussion, the Report on the Address was agreed to, and it was ordered to be presented to her Majesty to-morrow (this day) at two o'clock in the afternoon.

A GOSSIP ABOUT THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

We write with cannon booming in our ears. The Queen has passed from the Palace, to meet her liege Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled. The day has come at last—the ominous 22nd, for the fate of Corn and Cotton. We might fancy that the Spirits of the Plough and Loom were hovering "high over roaring Temple Bar," and looking down upon their respective troops as they file along to the scene of the battle that is to be. They might hold discourse after the fashion of the Spirits of the Flood and Fell in "The Lay of the Last Minstrel."

Above the cannon thundering loud,
Above the cheering of the crowd,
I heard two voices boom—
'Twas the Spirit of the Plough that spoke,
And he called on the Spirit of the Loom.

Spirit of the Plough.
Sleep'st thou, brother?
Spirit of the Loom.
Brother, nay,
My offspring muster strong to-day.
From Sheffield forge and Salford mill,
The sons of cotton gather still.
Mr. Bright, that warlike Quaker,
In straight-cut coat I see,
And Mr. Cobden, the speech-maker,
Looking full of glee.
Up and mark your lords of wheat,
How each trembles for his seat.

Spirit of Corn.
Fleets of corn-ships, Dantzic-laden,
Crowd the Thames' polluted stream:
For Old England thou to trade in
Foreign corn, a sin I deem.
Tell me, thou that should'st know Peel,
What his views for public weal?
Shall Corn or Cotton rule the State?
What shall be the Corn-law's fate?

What the answer of the Spirit of the Loom may be, we will not venture to anticipate, our inspiration having failed us as we reached this point.

But, by the time the words we write are printed, some little of the uncertainty that hangs over the political horizon will have cleared away. We can't hope for much enlightenment from a Queen's Speech, however; and the more anxious the world is to know what shape is to rise out of the Ministerial cauldron, the more carefully does the wily necromancer thicken the fumes that are to hide his juggleries, in the shape of a Speech from the Throne.

We turn from speculation to sympathy. Those unhappy County

Members! Good easy souls, anxious to be at peace with themselves and all the world, dragged out of their fat and quiet content to serve on Committees and listen to Cobden. Against this last infliction they have a remedy—slumber is not forbidden them. But they would fain sing, in the spirit of Tennyson's lotus eaters (the true descendants of which easy going race exist in your genuine country gentlemen)—we hope the poet will forgive us the parody:—

Why are we doomed to Roebuck's prosiness,
Tired out with Cobden's talk about distress,
When all but M.P.'s rest from weariness?
All men have rest, why should we toil alone,
We only toil who are, alas! M.P.'s,
And list perpetual drone,
Of men who mind all business but their own;
Nor ever take our ease,
Except at Bellamy's;
Nor steep in slumber's balm the weary head,
Nor vote with Brotherton, when one agrees
Its time to go to bed,
Why should we only toil who have large properties?

Unhappily a man can't go to sleep on a Committee. For all he understands of the jargon of opposing counsel, or the technicalities of engineers, he might as well be at Jericho as in St. Stephen's. But the Parliamentary Committee is a sacred thing, and so the unhappy country gentlemen are sacrificed. Many a worthy son of the soil spent Wednesday night in broken slumbers, thinking of the misery that the next morning would light him to. Visions of Railway Committees must have sat heavy on agricultural souls, not lightened by anticipations of Corn-law repeal. We have put into rhyme some of the horrors of such a night, and dedicate them to the agricultural mind, humbly and feelingly.

THE DREAM OF THE COUNTY MEMBER.

The clock struck twelve; 'twas dark and drear,
The Member lay in bed;
He tumbled there; he tumbled here;
And heavy was his head:
And, in dyspepsia severe,
His dinner weighed like lead.
All day long unto inward strife
And gloom he'd been a prey,
And, to the questions of his wife,
He answer gave away—
To-morrow, you're aware, my life,
"It is our opening day."

His deeds of blood had murdered sleep,
And, in his troubled doze,
He saw dead game—a gory heap—
Cock-pheasants laid in rows,
And slaughtered hares, that round did leap,
A fore-foot to each nose.

To them succeeded many a shape,
Of uncouth mould and grim—
For bodies papers tied with tape,
Theodolite for limb;
And dumpy levels, all agape,
That took surveys of him.

The Member's blood with horror thrills—
They shriek within his ear,
"We are the Ghosts of Railway Bills
That should have passed this year,
But standing orders, 'gainst our wills,
Keep us in limbo here.

"Yea—standing orders, harsh and hard,
Our infant growth have stopped;
By them from Board of Trade debarred,
Like foundlings we were dropped;
Sections and plans untimely marred,
And Branch with Trunk-line lopped.

"Look at our cuttings deep and wide,
Our gradients and our curves;
Well may'st thou toss from side to side
With racked and raging nerves.
What he not knows who dares decide,
Say what that man deserves?

"Our brother lines that still survive
Shall plague thee in our stead,
All railway projects yet alive
Shall weigh thee down like lead,
The Session's close shall first arrive
Ere thou shalt get to bed.

"On a Committee thou alway
Shalt sit; till, deaf and blind,
Like him whom, as the poets say,
In Hades fiends did bind—
Till Hercules tore man away,
But left the skin behind."

The clock struck one—the ghosts depart—
The Member from his doze
Waked with a shriek and horrid start;
And, when the sun arose,
'Twas with a sad and heavy heart
He did put on his clothes!

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—During the present week very little English has come too hand from any quarter. Although the show of samples of that article to-day was limited the demand for it, arising from the proceedings in the House of Commons last evening, was heavy, and prices were almost nominal. Of foreign wheat, both free and in bond, the quantity on offer was by no means large, nevertheless the sale for it was unusually depressed, without, however, any alteration in the quotations. The best making barley was quite as dear, but all other kinds were a mere drop. In most very few sales took place, at about stationary figures. Oats, beans, peas, and flour, but not cheaper.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 2030; barley, 6800; oats, 560. Irish: wheat, —; barley, —; oats, —. Foreign: wheat, 8100; barley, 730; oats, 570 quarters. Flour, 2240 sacks; malt, 2530 quarters.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 48s to 58s; ditto, white, 55s to 65s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 50s to 56s; ditto, white, 55s to 61s; rye, 31s to 32s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; distilling, 26s to 27s; malted ditto, 32s to 33s; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 54s to 56s; brown ditto, 49s to 52s; Kingston and Ware, 58s to 60s; Chevalier, 60s to 62s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 23s to 25s; potato ditto, 23s to 30s; Young and Cork, black, 23s to 24s; ditto, white, 25s to 27s; tick beans, new, 31s to 33s; ditto, old, 30s to 32s; grey peas, 32s to 34s; mangle, 33s to 35s; white, 38s to 40s; broad beans, 37s to 39s, per 280 lbs. Foreign.—Free 56s; Suffolk, 32s to 41s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 37s to 39s, per 280 lbs. Foreign.—Free 56s; wheat, —s to —s; Dantzic, red, 52s to 60s; white, 56s to 68s. In Bond.—Barley, 26s to 28s; oats, 24s to 26s; ditto, feed, 10s to 22s; beans, 42s to 44s; peas, 46s to 50s per quarter. Flour, American, 30s to 32s; Baltic, —s to —s, per barrel.

The Seed Market.—Linsseed cakes are a very dull sale, and prices are still drooping. All kinds of seeds are barely late rates.

Linsseed.—English, sowing, 48s to 52s; Baltic, crushing, 46s to 50s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 44s to 47s. Hempseed, 36s to 40s per quarter. Coriander, 12s to 18s per cwt. Brown Mustard-seed, 10s to 15s; white ditto, 12s to 18s. Tares, 0s 9d to 0s 10d per bushel. English Rapeseed, £27 to £29, per last of 10 quarters. Linsseed cakes, English, £11 10s to £12 0s; Rapeseed, £27 to £29, per last of 10 quarters. Linsseed cakes, £25 0s to £25 10s per ton. Canary, 44s to 48s, per quarter. English Clover-seed, red, 45s to 50s; extra, 52s to 55s; white, 60s to 62s; extra, up to 68s. Foreign, red, 40s to 48s; extra, 50s; white, 60s to 62s; extra, 70s, per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis, are from 9d to 9½d; of household ditto, 7d to 8½d per 4½ lb loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 56s 3½d; barley, 31s 1½d; oats, 22s 3½d; rye, 34s 9d; beans, 36s 8d; peas, 35s 1½d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 56s 8d; barley, 32s 3d; oats, 22s 10d; rye, 34s 4d; beans, 36s 4d; peas, 35s 6d.

Duties on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 16s 0d; barley, 6s 0d; oats, 6s 0d; rye, 8s 6d; beans, 4s 6d; peas, 2s 6d.

Tea.—Rather an extensive business has been transacted in most kinds of tea, at somewhat improved quotations. Common sound Congou is selling at 10d; low yellow leaf twankay, 1s 1d to 1s 1½d; fair and useful, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; and common yellow leaf hyson, 1s 1½d to 2s per lb. Several vessels have lately arrived from China tea laden.

Sugar.—A better demand has been experienced for West India, at fully previous quotations; indeed, in some instances, 6d per cwt more money has been obtained for fine colony samples. Mauritius and Bengal qualities have sold freely, at extreme rates. Refined goods are firm, at 63s 6d for brown, and 64s 6d for standard lump.

Coffee.—By private treaty, only a moderate business is doing in coffee, at about last week's quotations. Very good ordinary Ceylon has produced 50s per cwt.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 8s to £4 12s; clover ditto, £4 8s to £5 15s; oat straw, £1 10s to £1 12s; wheat straw, £1 12s to £1 14s per load.

Hops (Friday).—Although the supply of most kinds of hops on offer here is by no means large, the general demand must be considered inactive. Nevertheless East and Mid Kent bags fully support last week's quotations. Sussex pockets, £5 10s to £7 2s; West of Kent ditto, £5 10s to £7 10s; Mid Kent ditto, £7 7s to £9 5s; East Kent ditto, £3 8s to £10 10s; Mid Kent bags, £8 1s to £9 5s.

Provisions.—Irish butter is in good request, at very full prices. Best hands of Carlow, landed, 92s to 98s; first Carlow, 88s to 92s; first Clonmel, 90s to 96s; Limerick, 86s to 88s; and first Belfast, 84s to 90s, per cwt. For forward delivery, next to nothing is doing. Foreign butter is steady, at full currencies, the best quality producing 100s to 110s per cwt. English butter firm, at 48s to 50s per cwt. Prime small Waterford, 50s to 52s; heavy, 48s to 49s; at an advance of 1s to 2s per cwt. Prime small Waterford, 50s to 52s; heavy, 48s to 49s; at an advance of 1s to 2s per cwt. Hams and lard firm, and rather dearer.

Tallow.—Only a moderate business is doing in P. Y. C., at 43s. on the spot, and 43s. 3d. to 43s. 6d. for the next three months. Town Tallow steady, at 43s. net cash.

Potatoes.—The supplies of Potatoes being large, the trade is heavy, at reduced prices.

Wool.—We have very little business to report in the Wool market; yet prices are pretty generally supported.

Cattle (Friday).—Morrison's Hartley, 14s; Eden Main, 18s 3d; Hyton, 16s; Kelco, 19s 9d; Adelaide Test, 19s; and Barrett, 17s 9d per ton.

Smithfield (Friday).—Notwithstanding the supply of beasts here to-day was very limited, and of full average quality, we have to report a dull inquiry for that description of stock, at barely Monday's quotations. We had on sale 110 beasts, 280 sheep, and 7 calves, from Hereford. For sheep we had a heavy demand, but prices ruled about stationary. The veal trade was active, at an improvement in value of from 2d to 4d per 8 lbs. Pigs steady, at full prices. Milch cows very dull, at from £16 to £18 15s each.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; second quality ditto, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; prime large oxen, 3s 8d to 4s 0d; prime Scots, &c., 4s 2d to 4s 4d; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; second quality ditto, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; prime coarse calves, 4s 10d to 5s 0d; prime small ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; large hogs, 3s 10d to 4s 0d; neat small porkers, 4s 8d to 5s 2d. Suckling calves, 18s to 20s; and quarter old store pigs, 16s to 19s each. Beasts, 589; cows, 114; sheep, 2240; calves, 110; pigs, 250.

Neugate and Leadhall (Friday).—The demand was rather inactive, yet prices were supported.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; middling ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 0d; prime large ditto, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; prime small ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; large pork, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; inferior mutton, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; middling ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; prime ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s 8d to 5s 8d; small pork, 4s 8d to 5s 6d.

ROBT. HERBERT.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The absorbing subject of interest in the Money Market continues to be the probable effect resulting from the payment of the various Railway deposits to the Accountant-General. There has been for some time a growing disinclination to make advances, both on the part of the bankers and brokers, except at very short dates. At this moment the Bank of England is pressed on all sides for accommodation, but do not exhibit any great amount of liberality, having altered their ordinary principle of making no loans for less than a month, to limiting the period to 21 days. Accumulation on the part of the banking and moneyed interest, and limitation on the part of the Bank of England, combine to place the commercial part of the community in a position of much difficulty, from which no relief can be anticipated until the middle of next month, unless the Chancellor of the Exchequer should interfere with regard to the Railway deposits. Some unfortunate reports are current with regard to two extensive banking establishments, one situated in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and the other in the North of England. It would be premature at present to mention the names; but little doubt can exist that in the first, if not in both instances, the reports are founded on accurate data. The Consols Market has improved considerably during the week, although it does not close quite so good as it has been. The price on Monday was 94½ for Account, which on Tuesday advanced to 95½, considerable fluctuations having occurred in the interim. A partial decline has since occurred, and no improvement took place upon the report of her Majesty's Speech being received. The closing prices mark 94½ for Money, and 95 for Account. Exchequer Bills have improved from 15 to 17 to 20, the closing quotation. Bank Stock is good, at the advance of 20½ to 207. Three per Cent. Reduced is 95½. New Three and a Quarter per Cent. 96½ to 97½; and India Stock, 253.

The Foreign Market displayed an increased activity at the beginning of the week, but did not maintain it until the close. Brazilian on Monday quoted 83 but has since receded to 81½. Portuguese has been little dealt in, and no fluctuation has occurred; it closes at 59½. Mexican improved from Monday's price of 30½ to 30, on Wednesday, but no transaction has taken place since. Spanish Actives on Monday were 27½, and on Tuesday advanced to 28½, quoting now about 28½. The Three per Cent. opened at 38½, and have advanced to 39. Dutch Stock has not been largely dealt in; the closing price for the Four per Cent. is 93½. The Two-and-a-Half per Cent. are (nominally) 59½.

The Share Market was very flat at the commencement of the week, but improved in tone as it advanced. Some of the best Scrips have been dealt in at a small discount, and the French lines continue in good request; but, it must be remarked that the rise in French Scrips is the result of some peculiar combination to support the Paris market, which has the effect of producing confidence here—whether justly or not, is a question that time will settle. Although the market closes with tolerable firmness, yet any decisive rise is speedily checked by immediate sales. It is apparent that a large amount of Shares is only waiting for a decided advance to be disposed of; and, as it is most probable that the holding over will be an expensive operation at the next settling, any extensive rise at present can be scarcely regarded as probable. The closing prices are:—Aberdeen, 5½; Birmingham and Oxford Junction, 3½; Bridgewater and Minehead, 3½; Bristol and Exeter, 4½; Buckinghamshire, 3½; Caledonian, 14½; Ditto New, 4; Ditto Extension, 3½; Chester and Holyhead, 16½; Direct Northern, 2½; Eastern Counties, 22½; Ditto New, 7½ pm.; Ditto Perpetual, 5 per Cent. No. 1, 3½ pm.; Ditto ditto, No. 2, 3½ pm.; East Lincolnshire, 3½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 7½; Ditto Half Shares, 15; Edinburgh and Perth, 4½; Gloucester, Aberystwith, and Central of Wales, 3½; Goole and Doncaster, 2½ pm.; Great Eastern and Western, 1½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 2½; Great North of England (New), 33; Great Western, 16½; Ditto Quarter Shares, 20; Ditto Fifths, 37; Guildford, Fareham, and Portsmouth, 5½; Lancaster and Carlisle, 5½; Leicester and Bedford, 2½ pm.; Liverpool Manchester, and Newcastle Junction, 4½; Lond. and Birm., 22½; Ditto Quarter Shares, 26½; Lond. and Blackwall, 9½; Ditto New, 3½; Ditto Extension, 3½; Lond. and Brighton, 6½; Ditto Fifths, 21; Lond. and Croydon, 22½; Ditto Guaranteed 5 per cent., 9½; Lond. and Hounslow, and Western, 1½; Lond. and South Western, 7½; Do. New Consol. 43; Do. New, 19; Lond. and York, 4½; Lynn and Ely, 6½; Manchester and Leeds, 123; Do. Half Shares, 63½; Do. Fifths, 12½; Manchester and Birmingham, 78; Do. New Quarters, 9½; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 2½ pm.; Manchester and Southampton, 3½; Midland, 155; Do. New, 29½; Midland, Birmingham, and Derby, 123; Newcastle and Darlington Junction, 59; Ditto New Branding, 53½; Newcastle and Berwick, 22; Newark, Sheffield and Boston, 3; North British, 25½; Ditto Half Shares, 7½; Ditto Extension to Carlisle, 3½; Northern and Southern Connecting, 1½; Northampton, Banbury, and Cheltenham, 2½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 16; Portsmouth Direct, 4½; Preston and Wye, 34½; Scottish Central, 16; Scottish Midland, 6½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 4½; Shropshire Union, 3½ pm.; South Midland, 3 pm.; Staines and Richmond, 2½; South Wales, 3½; Trent Valley, 20½; Vale of Neath, 3½; Wilts, Somerset, and Weymouth, 3½; York and North Midland, Selby Branch, 87; Ditto Extension, 40; Boulogne and Amiens, 12½; Bordeaux, Toulouse, and Cette (Mackenzie's), 2; Ditto (Espeleto's), 2; Calcutta and Diamond Harbour, 3½ pm.; Ceylon, 11; Dutch Rhineish, 8½; Great North of France, Constituted, 15½; Great Western Bengal, 1; Luxembourg, 2½; Orleans and Vierzon, 17½; Over Yssel, 1½ dis.; Paris and Lyons (Lafitte's), 2½; Paris and Lyons (Ganneron's), 3½; Sambre and Meuse, 5½; Minch: Real del Monte Unregd., 3½; Joint Stock Banks: Australasia, 27.

SATURDAY MORNING.—Consols fluctuated yesterday, and closed at the depressed price of 94½. The Share Market was, in some measure, influenced by the depression in the English House, and closed heavily, although no important decline in prices occurred.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, JAN. 20.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—J. LEWIS, Tipton, Staffordshire, grocer. **BANKRUPT.**—W. WARD, Worcester, auctioneer. T. P. HAWLEY, now or late of 25, Brunswick-parade, Barnsbury-road, Islington, cheesemonger. W. BALDWIN, Norland-road, Notting-hill, victualler. Sir J. ROSS, Knight, late of 34, Gracechurch-street, City, and now of the York-road, Lambeth, banker. J. H. BANKS, Great Newport-street, engraver. F. GLASS, 7, Basinghall-street, City, woolen factor. T. DEAN, Chancery-lane, Tottenham-cour-road, victualler. VICTOIRE S. U. LENOIR, 138, Regent-street, milliner. J. RICKETS, 10, Cork-street, tailor. D. MARKS, 55 and 57, Houndsditch, pen manufacturer. W. GRIFFIN, 73, Cornhill, jeweller. J. JARVIS and J. ROWLEY, Newton, Lancashire, silk manufacturers. J. KADDOE, Alcester, Warwickshire, broker. R. PARIS, Ragland, Monmouthshire, innkeeper. J. DENBIGH, Bradford, Yorkshire, wool merchant. J. B. GILLET, Appleton-bridge, Yorkshire, dyer. R. AGARS, Kingston-upon-Hull, woollen draper. R. KILPATRICK, 4, J. SMITH, Liverpool, rope manufacturers. D. WYNNE, Colwyn, Carnarvonshire, wheelwright.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—W. WAUGH, Kilmarnock, hat manufacturer. W. DUNN, Kilwinning, merchant. J. SENIOR, Leslie, merchant. H. SMITH, Ardrossan, druggist. J. KILPATRICK, Glasgow, fisher.

FRIDAY, JAN. 23.

WAR-OFFICE, Jan. 23.—3rd Light Dragoons: Cornet R. Hodgson to be Cornet, vice Bruce. 8th: Capt. R. T. Hopkins to be Captain, vice G. Brown; Lieut. A. J. Lord Killean to be Capt. vice Hopkins; Lieut. P. M. Wood to be Lieutenant, vice Lord Killean. 12th: J. H. King to be Cornet, vice Bruce; Ensign J. W. K. Bruce to be Cornet, vice Hodgson. 14th: Ensign J. Carnegie to be Ensign and Lieutenant, vice Bradford. 4th Foot: Ensign G. Collins to be Lieutenant, vice Thomson; Ensign C. R. Wollaston to be Lieutenant, vice Collins; Lieut. G. L. Thompson to be Adjutant, vice Sheppard; Serj.-Maj. W. Thorpe to be Captain, vice Wollaston. 5th: Lieut. C. Durie to be Captain, vice Sheppard; Lieut. F. W. L'Estrange to be Lieut. C. Durie; Lieut. C. B. Blaydes to be Lieutenant, vice Ralph. 8th: W. H. Macdonald to be Ensign, vice Lyon. 9th: Lieut. C. Elmhorst to be Captain, vice Brev.-Maj. Ogilvie; Ensign W. H. Forster to be Lieut. vice Elmhorst; H. E. Fardell to be Ensign, vice Forster. 19th: Assist. Surg. T. W. Barrow, to be Assistant Surgeon, vice Smith. 31st: Second Lieut. E. Clemons, to be First Lieutenant, vice Breckon; E. T. Barnard, to be Second Lieutenant, vice Clemons; Lieut. J. P. Stuart, to be Adjutant, vice Deane. 43rd: Ensign R. H. Weyland, to be Lieutenant, vice A. S. Bruere; Serj. Major E. Dwen, to be Ensign, vice Weyland. 46th: Brevet Major G. de Rotterdam, to be Captain, vice Mansel. 53rd: Capt. J. G. Ostville, to be Captain, vice C. Inge; Lieut. C. H. Fenton to be Captain, vice Ostville; Ensign F. E. Tighe to be Lieutenant, vice Fenton; G. J. Ashburn, to be Ensign, vice Tighe. 57th: Lieut. L. Frost to be Captain, vice Jackson; Ensign C. G. D. Annesley to be Lieut. vice Frost. 60th: Capt. G. P. Mansel to be Captain, vice de Rotterdam. 64th: J. S. Singleton to be Ensign, vice Reed. 68th: Capt. M. C. Trevillian to be Captain, vice E. Macpherson; Lieut. P. Hill to be Captain, vice Trevillian; Ensign T. W. Storer to be Lieutenant, vice Hill; Ensign E. D. Lyon to be Ensign, vice Storer. 69th: Assist. Surgeon J. C. G. Tice, M.D., to be Surgeon, vice F. O'Brien. 72nd: Ensign A. C. Knox to be Lieutenant, vice Tice; Lieut. F. Macnisch, 88th: Lieut. E. Norton to be Captain, vice De Butts; Ensign E. G. Maynard to be Lieutenant, vice Norton; Cadet H. Ernst to be Ensign, vice Maynard. 94th: J. Litch, M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Booth.

Royal Canadian Rifle Regiment: Brevet Lieut.-Col. W. H. Newton to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Elliott; Brevet Major R. Muter to be Major, vice Newton; Lieut. H. Munro to be Captain, vice Muter; Ensign and Adjutant R. Macdonnell, to have the rank of Lieutenant; Ensign J. B. Geale to be Lieutenant, vice Munro; H. G. A. Powell to be Ensign, vice Geale.

STAFF.—Lieut. J. M. Mason to be Adjutant, vice Cowell.

BREVET.—Capt. M. C. Trevillian to be Major in the Army.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—Asst. Surg. G. N. Fooker to be Staff Surgeon of the Second Class. **BANKRUPT.**—J. TUDENHAM, Pickering-place, Baywater, builder. J. CLEARY, Church-road, De Beauvoir-square, builder. W. BUCHANAN, Old Jewry-chambers, merchant. S. B. HOLDER, City, merchant. R. BAKER, Frost-lane, near Hythe, Hampshire, stone-mason. J. CARLISLE, Little Love-lane, Wood-street, City, commission-agent. J. LINNIE, Argill-place, Regent-street, goldsmith. J. HUPWAD, Cornhill, merchant. D. HUTSON, 15, Abchurch-lane, agent. B. CALWAY, Cornet, W. K. B. to be Ensign, vice Fardell. C. B. COCKER, Nafford, Norfolk, timber-dealer. J. Roberts and Hugh Hughes, Deansgate, Manchester, linen-draper. J. FREEMAN, Sherborne-house, Cheltenham, lodging-house-keeper. T. RODGSON, Liverpool, bookseller. T. Knight and M. T. Knight, Bath, upholsterers. CROSSLAND, 10, Broadfield, York, head-knitter. G. MIDDLETON, Nottingham, wire and spirit-merchant.

THE THEATRES.

In the continued absence of any novelty at our theatres, we think we may, with advantage, advert to a topic of some interest to the dramatic world, although it has never yet been taken up by the critic. We allude to the exceedingly injudicious notices of our second, third, and fourth rate performers following their profession abroad, which are quoted from the foreign journals into our own newspapers, meant, without doubt, in all kindness by those friends connected with the press who write them; but anything but advantageous in their results. We are not speaking with respect to any particular individuals, but generally, for unfortunately this practice is most generally adopted. Somebody, usually a vocalist, who never created the slightest sensation on our boards, or drew sixpence to the treasury, finding that his, or her, style is deficient in those points most likely to captivate the public ear, goes to Italy for improvement, or to America for gain. The loss is scarcely perceived in the *monde artistique*, when paragraphs appear, quoted from local prints, filled with accounts of the triumphs gained by these performers: how they are the *furors* in cities we have been accustomed to regard as the most severe ordeals of musical talent, and how they have been called many times before the curtain in one evening, after every act. We are then at a loss to reconcile these statements with our own matter-of-fact recollections of the capabilities of the performers in question. We first get out of conceit with our own judgment; then we put that of the foreigners at a much lower ebb than we hitherto conceived it to be: next, perhaps, we believe some rapid improvement has taken place in our artists on their journey, almost by enchantment; and lastly, on their return, our opinion comes back to its original state, as we find these wonderfully gifted people very little altered from what they were before; in fact they may be possibly rendered less attractive by an assumption of foreign style which they have not the power or ability to sustain.

This reprehensible custom does harm in many ways: it shakes our faith in the truth of foreign theatrical intelligence, and induces us to offer but a cold and cautious welcome to any really deserving vocalist who may have unluckily been heralded by these side-wind puffs: it raises our expectations to a high pitch, and they are never realised, whereby the decadence of the object is the speedier; and it teaches us to regard the *artiste* with some suspicion, not being altogether able to relinquish the notion that he has himself been a party to the publication of such false praise. We have spoken but briefly on this subject, but we hope we have said enough to convince the performers that the system, as far as our own public is concerned, is a failure: that if they really have made these great hits abroad, there will be little fear of their not being able to do the same at home, even without this aid; and that if they have not, all the friendly notices in the world cannot bolster them up for long in their false position.

FRENCH PLAYS.

We believe that Mr. Mitchell has every reason to be pleased with the results of his management of this theatre for the present season. Although no extraordinary attraction has been offered in the way of "stars," yet the houses have been constantly well filled: and the *habitués* of the theatre have expressed but one opinion respecting the exertions of the lessee. The secret of this success has been, that the stock company is an excellent one: so good, indeed, that the members might perform any popular piece of the Parisian stage without any aid from a particular name to enhance their powers of attraction. The level excellence of the acting generally, offers an admirable example to our English artists, even down to the most humble parts. Unfortunately, however, the constant engagements of the greater part of our actors will not allow them to profit by it. M. Laferrière, who has come unheralded by any rumor, is possessed of talent far above the ordinary run. He made his bow to an English audience in "Elle est Folle," a drama founded, if we mistake not, upon the story of "The Baronet's Wife," in Mr. Warren's "Diary of a Tail Physician," and at once secured the favour of the audience. The incident which furnishes the plot is, that one Sir Bernard Harleigh (M. Laferrière) imagines his wife to be mad, the fact being that he himself is demented. Our illustration is taken from this drama. The Baronet is shown starting up at some thought which fires the train of his insanity, in spite of the efforts which his physician has been making to conceal his malady from the parties assembled.

Madame Albert continues nightly to be applauded to the echo. She is announced to appear as *Marie*, in "La Perle de Savoie," the character in which, two years ago, she caused so many tears to flow at this theatre.

The theatres continue to be well filled. DRURY LANE puts forth very attractive bills, which have the effect of collecting excellent audiences. Macfarren's opera of "Don Quixote" is in active rehearsal for immediate production, and Benedict's "Crusaders" is also in preparation.

M. Julien vacates COVENT GARDEN at the end of the month, and nothing is at present known with certainty as to the fate of this unfortunate theatre. It will retire, we expect, once more to the privacy of its dust and cobwebs, except when the League rouses it, from time to time, from its loneliness.

At the HAYMARKET, we understand, a comedy by Mr. Douglas Jerrold has been accepted. Miss Cushman fills the house, literally to the ceiling, three times a week, as *Romeo*; and "The Cricket" makes an average off-night attraction. We suspect, however, it does not benefit the treasury much.

A new drama, of domestic interest, called, "Leoline; or, Life's Trials," will be played at the ADELPHI, on Monday, in which Mrs. Yates will take the principal character.

Madame Celeste is at present fulfilling her provincial engagements. The LYCEUM still remains as per last. There is nothing in preparation; and, to judge from the full houses, nothing will be needed for some time to come.

Mr. Macready makes his re-appearance at the Princess', next week; and will be succeeded by Madame Vestris and Mr. Charles Mathews. An action brought by Miss Grant against the Manager of this house, upon a question of performing certain second-class characters in operas, with inferior vocalists in the principal roles, was gained last week by the lady.

Mr. HENRY BETTIE.—We hear that this gentleman has accepted an engagement, for a limited number of nights, at the Queen's Theatre, and that he will make his first appearance there in *Macbeth*, a character in which he has attained considerable celebrity in the provinces.

Two elephants have been engaged by Mr. Batty, the proprietor of ASTLEY'S, and will forthwith make their appearance in a grand Eastern spectacle.

M. Alexandre Dumas is busily engaged in arranging a drama, founded on the *suile* of his romance of "Les Trois Mousquetaires," in ten acts (!) And it is the intention of the management of the Porte St. Martin, where we believe it will be produced, to play five acts one night, and the remaining five the next. How this experiment will succeed, even in play-going Paris, remains to be proved. A contemporary observes that some of Shakespeare's serial historical tragedies are much longer, taken together.

ACCIDENT TO LORD CHARLES RUSSELL.—The above noble Lord narrowly escaped a serious accident on Monday last. The hounds met at Cranfield; and as his Lordship was crossing an archway over a brook, it gave way, and the horse fell, throwing Lord Charles to the ground. His Lordship lay with one leg under the horse; at length, by the aid of some ropes, he was slowly drawn from under the horse, after remaining more than twenty minutes in so precarious a situation, without sustaining any serious injury.

THE MADRIGAL SOCIETY.

We announced in last week's ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS that the 106th Anniversary Festival was celebrated on Thursday week at Freemasons' Hall, which was opened for the first time since the alterations and embellishments. In accordance with our promise, we now supply the sketch taken by our artist. The Madrigalists, after the cloth had been removed, sat with the basses, 28 in number. Lord Saltoun, the permanent President, sat with the basses, 28 in number. On his Lordship's right were the altos, 16; and to his left the tenors, 23. Sir George Clerk, Bart. (the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, and Master of the Mint), who is an accomplished amateur, being at the head of this vocal detachment. In the centre of the Hall, facing the Chairman, was a table apart for the boys of the Chapel Royal and Westminster Abbey, with a place for the Conductor, *ad interim*, Mr. Turle, the clever organist of that cathedral—Mr. Hawes being absent from indisposition. Amongst the officers of the Society were Thomas Oliphant, Esq., the Honorary Secretary, who is learned in Madrigalian lore, and a poet of no mean rank; Mr. Street, the Librarian, the father of the Society, having been a member for fifty-one years; Mr. Baumer, the Treasurer; and Messrs. Bishop and Ripplingham, who have the important posts of Wine Stewards. Behind the chair, were placed the non-singing visitors. Amongst the amateurs were Lord Clarence Paget, the Hon. G. O'Callaghan, Major Oliphant, the Rev. H. Legge, Messrs. Fitzherbert, Barnwell, Budd (Secretary of the Western Madrigal Society, and Mr. Evans, the President), Addison, Byron, Nethercliffe, Hogarth, Gruneisen, &c. The professionals were in strong force, including Sir George Smart, Messrs. T. Cooke, Horsley, Parry, Goss, W. L. Phillips, J. Bennett, King, E. Taylor, C. Potter, Francis, Chapman, Spenser, Walmesley, Anderson, Foord, W. H. Holmes, Elliott, &c.

The selection comprised the following pieces:—"Dr. Tye's 'In Life's Gay Morn' (date 1553); J. Wilbye's 'Thus saith my Cloris bright,' and 'Thou art but young' (1590); Sir John Rogers's 'O say, ye Saints,' 'T.



FRENCH PLAYS.—SCENE FROM "ELLE EST FOLLE."—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

There is a niche at the top of the room, in which a statue of the Duke of Sussex will be hereafter placed. The paintings have been cleaned, and the Masonic emblems re-decorated and gilded, on a ground of transparent blue. The Hall is to be lighted with gas, and the wax chandeliers, which shone but dimly, removed.

According to Mr. Oliphant's interesting account of the Madrigal society, published by Calkin and Budd, it was founded in 1741 at the Twelve Bells, in Bride-lane, by John Immyms, a lawyer, who died in 1764. He played on the harpsichord, viol da gamba, flute, and lute, and had a "cracked counter-tenor voice." Mr. Immyms was a member of the Academy of Ancient Music, and luteist to the Chapel Royal. He was so imbued with the love of the ancient school of part-writing, that he determined to found a club, exclusively for the cultivation of such music; indeed, such was his devotion to it, "that he looked upon Bononcini and Handel as the greatest corrupters of the science." In 1745 the Society removed to the Founders' Arms, Lothbury. The admission fee was 8s., and 3s. per quarter. They returned again to the Twelve Bells, and then, in 1748, went to the Queen's Arms, in Newgate-street. One of the rules was as follows:—"It having been long observed, that the Members being permitted to sup within the hours set apart for music, (a more intellectual pleasure), has created great hindrance and confusion in the performance, and perhaps by degrees would have eat up the whole time of the Society, and frustrated the chief intent of their Meeting; the Members of this Society have agreed to preserve an hour and a half each night free from such interruption; and it is hereby ordered, that if any Member shall eat his supper, or any part thereof, after half-an-hour past eight o'clock, and before ten o'clock, on the night of the Society's Meeting, he shall forfeit six-pence, to be applied for buying ruled-paper for the use of the Society."

One of the regulations enjoined a probation of a candidate, in order to ascertain whether he could sing in "time and tune." Most of the members at this period were mechanics; and Sir John Hawkins declares that they sang with a "degree

of correctness to do justice to the harmony." They made excursions to Blackheath and Richmond; and, at these merry-makings, tobacco was one of the great luxuries.

In 1769, the Society met at the Feathers Tavern, Cheapside; in 1775, at the King's Arms, Cornhill; in 1778, at the Half-Moon, Cheapside, and also at the London Tavern. In 1785, the entrance fee was raised to a guinea, and the quarterage to half-a-guinea. In 1792, headquarters were at the King's Head, Poultry; and then at the Globe, in Fleet-street. The next removal was in 1795, to the Crown and Anchor. In 1798, there was a dinner festival; and again in 1802, 1803, and 1809, from which time they have been continued annually. In 1811, a silver cup, for a madrigal after the old masters, was given; and Mr. W. Beale won it with "Awake, Sweet Muse." The old harpsichord, used formerly as an accompaniment, was disposed of in 1814. Now the part singing is without the aid of any instrument.

In 1821, the supper meeting, which had existed for fifty years, was changed to a monthly dinner, which is now held on the third Thursday in each month, from October to July, at the Freemasons' Tavern, the Anniversary Festival taking place in January. The yearly subscription is now £4, with a charge of 7s. 6d. for dinner, and 15s. for the Anniversary. In 1827, a perpetual President, Sir John Rogers, Bart., was appointed. To his tact and zeal, the Society is deeply indebted. On his resignation, on account of ill-health, General Lord Saltoun was elected, and his enthusiasm in the cause may be imagined when we state that he came up expressly from his seat in Scotland, to attend the anniversary.

The Madrigal was the parent of the English Glee, and it is owing to the former species of composition emanating from the Reformation, that we can boast of a national school of harmony. The Society has saved from oblivion many rich and rare gems.

LORD FRANCIS EGERTON.

The mover of the Address in the House of Commons is Lord Francis Egerton: the task is frequently entrusted to a young member of the Ministerial party, as it is considered a favourable opportunity for exhibiting his ability, if he possesses any. But, at a crisis like this, when every movement is of such importance, it is perhaps thought necessary to call in the aid of one experienced in public business, used to the House and to the routine of debate; one not likely to be embarrassed by the novelty of a first appearance before such an assembly. Lord F. Egerton has represented the Southern Division of Lancashire from the year 1835, and he had previously sat for Bletchingly and the county of Sutherland; his position as member of one of the great manufacturing districts of England, may also have had something to do with the selection, as well as his long experience of the House.

His Lordship is the second surviving son of the Duke of Sutherland, and is perhaps even better known to the general public by his former name, than by that of Egerton, which he assumed pursuant to the will of the late Duke of Bridgewater, from whom he inherited extensive property. As Lord Leveson Gower, he gained considerable literary reputation by his version of Goethe's "Faust," which exhibited much command of language and power of versification. He published also some translations from Schiller and other German poets, and was a frequent contributor to the Annuals. His latest literary labour, we believe, is a contribution to a grammar of the Persian language, derived from the work of a learned German, which is to be made available for the English student.



THE RIGHT HON. LORD FRANCIS EGERTON, MOVER OF THE ADDRESS, IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

It is pleasing to see men of such high station, escaping for a while from politics into the "fresh fields and pastures new" of literature. His Lordship has filled the office of Secretary for Ireland; but in the House he is not a very active party man, or frequent speaker. His consenting to move the Address, of course implies that he gives his confidence and support to the policy of the Prime Minister. His Lordship is in his 46th year; he married a daughter of C. Greville, Esq., of Warwick, niece of the Duke of Portland.



FESTIVAL OF THE MADRIGAL SOCIETY, IN FREEMASONS' HALL.



A CONNEMARA CABIN.—DRAWN BY TOPHAM.

A MOUNTAIN CABIN.—IRELAND.

Joy liveth where he lists; capricious Whim
Plumeth his pinions for their dancing flight,
And any happy heart hath lure for him;
He careth not on domes of gold to light,
On jewel'd Coronet or dazzling throne,
Tho' upon impulse, he will grandeur seek,
Yet his pure smiles are not for Rich alone,
But dimple fondly on the poorest cheek.

So, Poverty wears off a face of Joy,
Laughing and lovely over all its rags—
Now the girl, rustic; now the ruddy boy,
Whose urchin frolic ne'er to sadness flags;
Its leaping spirit radiates through the eyes,
Or maketh merry in the mirthful heart,
Making the creatures glow, like southern skies
That burn with sunshine—Joy in every part!

Joy flies anon from cities—and will thread
Thro' happy mazes to the lonely door,
Where the Poor love to hear his cheerful tread,
And his voice troll its music to the moor;
Mountains and rocks to echo it around,
Children to lisp its melody, and love
To warm the humble cabin by the ground,
By the heart-flame that's kindled from above.

Now here is such a cabin, where it seems
That Joy is Childhood's visitor to-day;
The crowd are far away,—hills, rocks, and streams,
List to youths' voices, and resound its play.
The hut, a little castle built of stones,
Piled ruggedly; no windows, and the door
A cavern entrance; but the laughing tones
Of a glad child come singing from the floor.

A floor of mud, and wretchedness—and still,
The tiny boy looks fat and full of glee;
And his eyes sparkle up with pleasure's thrill,
The sweet smile of his sister fair to see;
A blooming mountain-flower, blushing bright,
In the rich day-beam, tending her young brood
Of birds, that hardly yet have caught its light,
And yet are craving for their early food.

A goat skips round the beetle of the rock;
There is a tripping spirit over all—
An airy elasticity, to mock
Each heavy thought that on the heart would fall.
Childhood hath shaken hands with Joy, and so
Grief is chased off, and Lightness chirps its lay;
And all the living landscape seems to glow,
And dance in unison with Childhood's play.

Now beautiful impressions throng the mind,
And harmonise with Nature, till the brain
Teems with a thought that leaves a gloom behind
That with its moral saddens all the strain.
This Hut, with Childhood's presence blest alone,
Seems lovely—but invade the mountain nest
By the rude men who make its rocks their throne,
And, lo! it is the cradle of unrest.

It is an Irish Cabin:—Passion's strife
Converts the Child's home darkly to the lair;
With angry grief the Peasant's soul is rife,
For Agitation's storm hath reach'd even there.
Hate hath gone up where Love was meant to dwell,
Loosing the evil spirits of its wrath;
Childhood and Joy grow dim before the spell,
And Hunger moans along a foodless path!

BREAK OF FORTUNE.—On Wednesday, one of those sudden changes of fortune which occasionally occur happened to a man named John Carturit, living in Mary-street, Hampstead-road, who received intelligence that, by the death intestate of an uncle in Liverpool, he had become possessed of £8,000 personal property. Carturit, who is a hatter, was in very reduced circumstances, and when he received the pleasing intelligence was about applying for parochial relief.

WINCHESTER PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The second Concert of the above Society for the Season, took place on Tuesday last. The programme was unusually long, being divided into three parts; the first consisting of a portion of "The Messiah," the second, a selection from Handel, Mendelssohn, and Haydn; the third, the "Stabat Mater" of Rossini. The Concert commenced with the Overture to "The Messiah," when Mr. Lockey, (being his first visit to this city), gave that beautiful song, "Comfort ye my People," with a chasteness of style and propriety of expression that made a deep impression on the audience. This gentleman, a pupil of Sir G. Smart, possesses a genuine tenor voice, of even and pure quality, combining sweetness with power in an unusual degree; and, as he evidently studies to understand his subject, and aims at no unnecessary display, we venture to consider him an acquisition to the musical world of no ordinary value.

Mrs. Weiss (late Miss Barrett), had ample scope to display the fine quality and compass of the powerful organ with which she is gifted. Miss Duvall would have been heard to better advantage in a room of smaller dimensions. Mr. Leach, of the Cathedral choir, was the principal bass: his rich, mellow voice, correct style, and certain execution, told with their usual effect. The choruses were sustained with extraordinary spirit and precision. The veteran Dr. Chard presided at the piano-forte; the band and choruses were led by Mr. E. W. Thomas, who gave a solo on the violin in his usual masterly style.

About 500 persons were present, including the Very Rev. the Dean of Winchester (who is the President); many of the Clergy, and the principal families in the neighbourhood.

THE ETHIOPIAN SERENADERS.

A party of American minstrels, under the above designation, commenced on Wednesday night, at the Hanover-square Rooms, a series of concerts, for the avowed purpose of affording an accurate notion of Negro character and melody. These artists are remarkably clever, and admirably "made up." They are painted jet black, with ruddy lips, and large mouths; and being capital actors, the deception created is so great that wagers have been offered that they are really "darkies." They dress in dandy costume, *à la Julien*—that is, white waistcoated and wristbanded, turned up in the most approved D'Orsay fashion. Of course, it is impossible to come to any right conclusion as to the authenticity of the African airs, especially as they have arranged the compositions of the great European masters in such a grotesque manner. The executants are five in number; one plays the tambourine, Mr. Germon, who is the leader; another, the bone castanet; the third, the *accordion*; and the two others, the banjo, or African guitar. The castanet player does not sing; but his four colleagues have good voices, and in glees harmonize charmingly. In a quartet, a parody on the Phantom Chorus, from Bellini's "Sonnambula," and in a glee, "You'll see them on the Ohio," nothing could be more effective than the skilful blending of the parts. It is, perhaps, the *buffo* exhibition which will create the greatest sensation, and in this quality they are inimitable. The tambourine performer affects a ludicrous air of pompous sentiment, whilst the castanet sable hero indulges in all kinds of buffoonery and antics. He is a wonderful player—no Spaniard can rival him in the rapidity, delicacy, and precision. A scene called a "Railroad Overture," causes an explosion of laughter; they seem to be endowed with perpetual motion; and the scream of the whistle, at the same time with the noise of the engine, beggars all description. The entertainment is quite a novelty, and will, no doubt, be attractive. They have been provided with letters of recommendation from President Polk, and some leading personages in America, who must be better able to appreciate the accuracy of their African delineations than Europeans.

GERALD GAGE; OR, THE SECRET.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "SUSAN HOPLEY," ETC.

CHAPTER III.



BEFORE Gerald quitted Miss Dering's lodgings, on that night, he had, as may be supposed, put her in possession of Mr. Pilrig's grand secret; and it was arranged between them, that she should throw herself on Mr. Weston's generosity to forego and to forgive—that is, that she should ask him to release her from the engagement she had entered into but two days before; and to pardon her for the involuntary deception she had practised, and the disappointment she was about to inflict: and, painful as the dilemma was, she had every confidence in the success of her appeal. For her own part, she was deeply grieved and ashamed; but she knew Mr. Weston was a man of a philosophical mind, and a calm temperament, and she did not apprehend that his pain would be very acute or very durable; and as he was also very reasonable and very benevolent, she felt assured that he would believe what was true—namely, that she had fancied her heart was free when she accepted him; and that he would much rather she told him the truth now, at the expense of inflicting a temporary disappointment, than that she should fulfil her engagement, at the risk of making herself and him permanently miserable. The embarrassment of this communication was, necessarily, the first subject that engrossed her thoughts; but when, on the following day, the letter to Mr. Weston was dispatched, other cares and anxieties came crowding thick and fast upon her. She knew Gerald well, and although, to her sorrow, she found she loved him still—she loved him in spite of many and great faults. He was handsome, clever, accomplished, and eloquent; but he was impetuous and selfish—and too much the creature of circumstance to be relied upon under any circumstances. What could be a greater proof of how little he was to be depended on, than the manner in which he had neglected her for the last two or three years? She, whom he had vowed to love, and whom, he now declared, he had never ceased to love—he had left her to struggle with her poverty and her loneliness, unsupported and unconsolated. Money he had none, neither had she—for he was the son of a poor clergyman, who was starving himself, to keep his son at Oxford till he could take orders; and she was the daughter of a general officer, whose income had died with him; and who, having lived expensively, had little



to leave for the support of his wife and child, but the poor pension that Government afforded. Mrs. Dering had soon sunk under a loss and a reverse, which her already impaired health unfitted her to encounter; and Emily, educated in affluence and bred in elegance, was left, at seventeen, to struggle with the cold world alone, and to make the sad experiment, on how little life and a respectable appearance could be supported. Their mutual poverty had prevented the young couple marrying in the first bloom of their attachment; but for some time after her mother's death, Emily had been cheered and supported through her afflictions, by Gerald's attention and kindness. But, as time advanced, his attentions slackened; his visits to Bath became rare and short, and the correspondence, which had, at first, been regular and frequent, had gradually declined, till it had died away altogether, and Emily knew nothing of Gerald's movements but what she occasionally gathered from his father. In the meantime, the reduction of her circumstances had kept pace with that of her consolations. The small sum that remained to her after her mother's death was daily becoming less, and the pension she received was altogether inadequate to her support. Sorrows and difficulties were thickening around her. Gerald's long neglect not only appeared sufficient to release her from her engagement, but seemed to justify her in the belief that she would be doing him a service in releasing him from his; and his father, who looked upon their union as hopeless, and considered their attachment a mutual misfortune, encouraged her in these views of the case. Under these circumstances, she had accepted Mr. Weston; and, had not Gerald unfortunately learnt her intentions, and found his love so far revived, by the apprehension of losing her, that he started instantly from London to enforce his own long-neglected claims, a few weeks more would have seen her the wife of a worthy, wealthy man, of a certain age, whose kindness would have rendered her duties easy, and whose reasonable expectations would have been satisfied with such a degree of affection as that kindness would have ensured. But now all was undone again, and Emily was once more on the wide world; for though Gerald had convinced her that he could not part with her without pain, and although he had revived in her breast the fire that neglect had chilled, and so rendered her union with Mr. Weston impossible, he had not convinced her that his character was changed, and he had not shown her any way out of the difficulties that encompassed them. As for Mr. Pilrig's story, it might not be true; besides, if it were, Mr. Livingstone might alter his intentions and his will ten times before he died; and, even in the most favourable view of the case, the prospect of great wealth hereafter could be of no use to them now; and five hundred pounds in hand would have been worth a million in prospective.

To give him his due, these thoughts weighed heavily on Gerald's mind, too, as he walked that night to his father's house; and he felt keenly the justice of Emily's reproach, "How selfish and how cruel it was of him to come!" But the mischief was done, and the question that remained



THE ETHIOPIAN SERENADERS.

was, how was the injury he had done her to be compensated. There was but one way that he could see, and that was to marry her immediately, and persuade his father to let her live at the vicarage, until he had taken orders, and obtained some means of supporting her himself; and this, with a heavy heart, when he had heard the story, Mr. Gage acceded to. But, when the plan was proposed to Emily, although she consented to accept the shelter offered her, she recoiled from the idea of an immediate union. She felt that there would be a want of delicacy towards Mr. Weston in so abruptly transferring the hand to another, which she had, within so short a period, promised to him; and she insisted on a delay of six months; which interval was to be employed by Gerald in completing his studies, and by his father in the most strenuous endeavours to obtain some provision for his future subsistence.

CHAPTER IV.

Mr. Livingstone and Mr. Gage had been schoolfellows at Winchester, and fellow collegians at Oxford. They were both the sons of poor clergymen, and both designed for the church; but just at the moment that, with anxious hearts and throbbing heads, they were preparing for their examination, Obi, as he was commonly called by his familiars, received an invitation to India, from a connexion who was prosperously settled there; and, bidding adieu to theology and the Greek Lexicon, he started upon a new and more hopeful career. From that period, although they had vowed eternal friendship several hundred times, Mr. Gage heard no more of his chum, till he happened, many years afterwards, to read in the newspaper that his old friend had returned from India, the possessor of enormous wealth. But for the last clause of the paragraph, he would have made some attempt to renew the acquaintance; but he was himself so very poor, that the "enormous wealth" deterred him; and it was by accident only that Mr. Livingstone's recollection of his fellow student was revived. He chanced to see a card lying on the table, one day, when he called at his solicitor's, inscribed with the words *Gerald Gage*. The name struck him, and, on enquiry, he learnt that the owner of it was the son of his former friend. No intimation of this discovery, however, reached the obscure vicarage of N—, and the extraordinary consequences that resulted from it would have remained unsuspected and an impenetrable secret, but for the strange indiscretion of Mr. Pilrig. As Obi had always shown a tendency to eccentricity, old Mr. Gage, to whom the affair was communicated by his son, had no great difficulty in believing that he had made such a will; but the probability that he might alter it, and the remoteness of any advantage to be expected, if he did not, induced him to urge his son to banish the subject as much as possible from his mind, and Gerald promised that he would return to Oxford, and finish his studies, as steadily as if no such contingency awaited him; and whilst we leave him to fulfil these laudable intentions, we will introduce our readers to Mr. Livingstone's drawing-room, in Portland-place; where, seated in an easy chair, and surrounded by every appliance of comfort and luxury, the respected possessor of so much wealth was solacing himself alternately with his hookah, and a pile of Indian newspapers that lay beside him. He wore a brown wig, and a brown coat, and shorts of the same colour. His age might be sixty-five, but there was nothing either in the appearance of his face or of his well-formed legs, which were clothed in white-ribbed cotton stockings, that would have been very encouraging to a legatee. The expression of his countenance was not ill-tempered; on the contrary, there was a spice of fun and humour about the nose, and in the small twinkling eyes; but there was something around the mouth, and the closing of the lips, that denoted a degree of firmness amounting to obstinacy. On the opposite side of the fireplace, attired, although it was morning, in a small blue gauze turban, and a green silk dress, with her collar all awry, and a locket and chain, that were intended to be in front, hanging over her left shoulder, sat Miss Sally Nichols, a middle-aged lady, to whom Nature had never been very kind in the matter of personal attractions, and whose incongruous taste in dress, combined with a total incapacity for putting on her wig, or anything else she wore, straight, gave a comical air that was very apt to excite laughter in those who were not accustomed to her appearance. She was a distant and poor relation of Mr. Livingstone's, and, when young, had gone out to India to look for a husband, but, not succeeding in the speculation, had ever since resided with him in the capacities of housekeeper, companion, nurse and interpreter; for the old gentleman was very deaf, and, for more reasons than one, preferred having an interpreter of his own to applying to people to repeat what they had said. One of these was that he detested bawling; whilst Nicky, as he called her, knew the exact tone that was most agreeable to his auditory nerves; and another, that he, by this means, avoided the conversations he had no desire to be troubled with, and only asked her to repeat when his curiosity prompted the inquiry. But the consequence of this arrangement was, that he heard only through Nicky's ears, and understood only through her understanding, except on those rare occasions, when he chose to hear and understand for himself, which, perhaps, he had not quite so much difficulty in doing as he pretended to. Now Nicky's ears were much like those of other people, but her understanding was different; and, although she was the most honest creature in the world, and had every intention of reporting correctly what she had heard, yet the discourse and propositions she conveyed to Mr. Livingstone, had not unfrequently undergone so strange a transmutation in their passage through her mind, that they could never have been recognized by their owners; whilst he, who was satisfied of her truth, never doubted the correctness of her reports, and only attributed the extravagant assertions and unaccountable nonsense that often reached him, to the daily increasing folly of the world; a persuasion, by the way, in which he delighted, and which was a principal element in his happiness, as it was at once, the source of his mirth, the maintenance of his self complacency, and the justification of the obstinacy, incredulity, and aversion, with which he received the advances of all his connexions.

"Nicky," said the old gentleman, "what's o'clock?"
"Twelve, Sir," answered Nicky, glancing at the or-molu clock on the mantel-piece.
"And that fellow not here yet, although I consented to see his ugly face at half-past eleven. What can he have to say to me."

"I can't think—I'm sure," said Nicky.
"I'll answer for that, Nicky," said Mr. Livingstone, chuckling; "you never could in your life."
"Isn't it natural he should wish to see his uncle?" said Nicky, "even if it were nothing else."
"Uncle!" said Mr. Livingstone, "pshaw! it must be money he wants."

"But he said it wasn't," objected Nicky; "he said he had something of importance to communicate."
"I don't believe him," said Mr. Livingstone. "How should a fellow like that know anything of importance? Who'd tell it him? who'd trust him?"
"But he may have found it out," said Nicky.
"Then it won't be true," said Mr. Livingstone. "However, I shan't believe it, at any rate: I never do believe anybody, especially him."

"No, you never do," answered Nicky, in a tone of quiet assent; adding presently, "There's a knock at the door now; I dare say that's him."

"Come and sit over here," said Mr. Livingstone, "and leave your chair for him; and then you can tell me what he says; I can't bear the sound of his voice."
Nicky did as she was bid; and, in a minute afterwards, the door opened, and the black footman announced Mr. Graves Livingstone, who, advancing eagerly across the room, with his hand extended, "hoped he saw his dear uncle quite well."

Instead of returning the salutation, Mr. Livingstone pointed to the opposite chair; whilst his nose, curled, and his eyes twinkled, and his lips closed on one another as firmly as if they intended to remain hermetically sealed for the rest of his life. But the visitor was not a man easily daunted; so, before he sat down, he rubbed his hands over the fire, and observed that it was very cold, and he believed the glass was lower on that morning than it had been all the winter.

Mr. Livingstone did not know what he said, nor did he care to inquire; and the remarks would have fallen to the ground, had not Nicky observed, that she supposed that was the reason she had found a lump of ice in her water-jug in the morning.

"What does he want, Nicky?" said Mr. Livingstone.
"I have something," said Mr. Graves, rising from the chair into which he had just dropped, and approaching his uncle, "of the greatest importance to communicate—something for your ear alone, uncle."

"Tell it to Nicky," said the old gentleman.
"I believe, Sir, it would be better that you should hear me yourself," said the nephew.

"I won't," said Mr. Livingstone, taking up his newspaper.
"Very well, Sir," said the nephew, evidently disappointed and annoyed; "it's a matter that concerns you, not me. I only wish to put you on your guard against a person that betrays your confidence."

"I am on my guard, and I never give my confidence to anybody," said Mr. Livingstone, "so nobody can betray it."

"Excuse me," said the nephew, "there's a certain lawyer called Pilrig."

"What of him?" said Mr. Livingstone, surprised out of his determination not to listen.

"He babbles about your affairs," continued the nephew—"boasts of being your confidential agent."

"The devil he does!" exclaimed Obiah.
"And goes about telling people that you have made a will."

"Did he tell you so?" inquired Mr. Livingstone.
"He did," answered Mr. Graves, "and in the presence of your intended heir too!"

"Then I've no doubt you asked him the question. And pray, did he tell you what I'd left you?"

"No, Sir," said the nephew; "nor did I ask him; he said you had left everything to a stranger of the name of Gage; and, only imagine, Sir, Gage was in the coach himself at the time."

"And that's your business here, is it?" asked the uncle.
"It is," replied Mr. Graves. "I thought it my duty to inform you."

"You needn't have troubled yourself," said Mr. Livingstone, resuming his paper, with an air of indifference, "What a fool says is of no consequence; nobody'll believe him; and if they do, it's of no consequence still."

"Why, Sir, few people like their private intentions to be made known to the world," said Mr. Graves.

"Nobody's acquainted with my private intentions," said Mr. Livingstone, nodding significantly, "therefore, there's no danger of their being made known to the world. And now I want to read my paper, so if you've anything more to say, tell it to Nicky."

"My uncle seems determined not to believe anything against this Mr. Pilrig," said Graves, in a low voice, as he took up his hat and rose to depart; "but I beg you'll explain to him that my only motive for coming was to prevent mischief; for, a person that talks of one thing, may talk of another, and there's no telling what may come of it."

"Very true," said Nicky, "I'll tell him so."

"You know I can have no motive for interfering but interest for him; if it wasn't for that, the man might talk to all eternity for me; but I really couldn't bear to hear my uncle's private intentions blabbed, in that manner, in a stage coach. I was quite shocked. You'll be sure and make him understand this."

"I will," said Nicky, "depend upon it."

"What does he say?" inquired Mr. Livingstone, as soon as his nephew had left the room.

"He says," answered Nicky, "that he wouldn't interfere if it wasn't for his interest; but that he wishes to prevent mischief; and that when he heard of your intentions in the stage coach he was quite shocked."

"I warrant him," said Mr. Livingstone; "and I've no doubt he has been getting round that fool of a lawyer, and sucked this out of him. Write to Pilrig for his bill; and tell John, if he calls, to say I'm not at home."

That night, before he went to bed, Mr. Livingstone tore up the will that Mr. Pilrig had made, and threw the fragments into the fire.

(To be continued.)

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS, RECENTLY DECEASED.

MRS. CORNWALL BARON WILSON.

The light and poetic literature of the day has lost a gifted contributor in the lamented lady whose death, on Monday, the 12th inst., it is our painful task to announce. Mrs. Wilson was the author of very many poetical productions, which indicated extreme facility of versification, and, though they did not place her in the first rank of female writers, possessed often a tone of grace, as well as of feeling, which justly obtained for them extensive popularity. In 1837, she gained the prize offered by the Melodists' Club for the words of a song; and the more gratifying was her success from the number of competitors—upwards of two hundred—who entered the lists. Previously, in 1834, she had been equally successful in a poem on the Princess Victoria, written for the Cardiff Bardic Festival. Her other productions, scattered through a multitude of publications, besides those given to the world in distinct volumes, might, by a judicious selection, be formed into a collected shape, and thus a lasting reputation secured for their author. At the period of her decease, Mrs. Cornwall Baron Wilson had completed her forty-ninth year. Her widower, Mr. Wilson, is a respectable solicitor, resident in Furnival's Inn, and by him she has left a family, one of which, Miss Florence Wilson, has already appeared in print as a poetic writer of promise.

THE RIGHT HON. JOHN HOOKHAM FRERE.

This gentleman, the friend of George Canning, was the eldest son and heir of the late John Frere, Esq., of Roydon Hall, M.P. for Norwich, and High Sheriff of Suffolk in 1776, and represented a family which has flourished in that county for many generations, in the rank of gentry, and can trace descent from John Frere, of Thurston, who lived in the early part of the 14th century. Mr. Hookham Frere was born May 21, 1769, sat in Parliament for West Looe in 1796, received the appointment of Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in 1799, was sent as Envoy to Lisbon in 1800, and to Madrid in 1802, and became a Privy Councillor in 1804. Subsequently he was Minister with Ferdinand VII. of Spain in 1808, and, in 1809, had the Castilian title of Marquis de la Union conferred on him by the Junta for his zealous services. The right hon. gentleman married September 12, 1816, Elizabeth Jemima, Dowager Countess of Erroll, but has left no issue. His death took place at Malta, on the 7th inst., and will be long felt as an irreparable calamity by the indigent of that island, to whom Mr. Frere was a munificent benefactor.

THE REV. GEORGE D'OYLY, D.D., F.R.S.

This pious and excellent divine died on the 8th inst., at the Rectory of Sundridge, Kent, deeply lamented. He was fourth son of the Rev. Matthias D'Oyly, grandson of Thomas D'Oyly, D.D., Archdeacon of Lewes, and brother of the late Sir John D'Oyly, Bart., of Sir Francis D'Oyly, K.C.B., slain at Waterloo, and of Mr. Sergeant D'Oyly. Born on the 31st Oct., 1778, he went at the usual age to the University of Cambridge, and succeeded in obtaining the distinguished degree of Second Wrangler. In 1810, he became Chaplain in Ordinary to George III.; in 1811, Christian Advocate at Cambridge; and in 1813, one of the examining Chaplains of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, by whom he was collated, in 1815, to the Vicarage of Herne Hill, Kent. This preferment he vacated before a twelvemonth expired, and was inducted to the Rectory of Buxted, Sussex, on the death of his father: in 1820, he was appointed Rector of Lambeth, Surrey, and Sundridge, Kent. In this brief reference to the distinguished churchman whose decease we record, we can merely offer a passing word on his benevolence, his zeal, and his learning.

There was scarcely a charitable or scientific institution in the Metropolis which Dr. D'Oyly did not in some way or other serve; and to his suggestions may be ascribed the foundation of King's College. In theological literature, his labours were most important: and his contributions to the "Quarterly Review," his "Life of Archbishop Sancho," and his splendid edition of the Bible, undertaken in conjunction with the present Bishop of Down and Connor, will not fail to render his name familiar and respected by the religious student. Dr. D'Oyly married, 9th Aug., 1813, Maria Frances, daughter of William Bruene, Esq., of London; and has left issue.

SIR HERBERT ABINGDON COMPTON.

Sir Herbert Compton, whose death occurred a few days since, was born in 1776, the son of Walter Abingdon Compton, Esq., of the County of Gloucester. Adopting the legal profession, he entered himself at one of the Inns of Court, and was called to the Bar in 1808. He subsequently proceeded to India, and received the honourable and lucrative appointment of Advocate General at Madras, which he retained until elevated to the Bench in 1831, as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at Bombay, when he received Knighthood.

THE LATE EARL OF PORTARLINGTON.—By his Lordship's will, of a recent date, the Roscrea (Damer) property comes to the Right Hon. Col. George D. Damer, free of all charges. The rest of the estate, real and personal, goes in trust to Colonel G. Damer and Mr. Cassan, for the use of the present Earl and his issue, in default of which it descends absolutely to Colonel G. Damer. The legacies amount to £25,000. Colonel G. Damer is appointed sole executor.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE, Westminster-bridge-road.—Proprietor, Mr. W. BATTY.—Increased Success—Houses Crowded Nightly, to witness the present Extraordinary Entertainment.—This present MONDAY, JAN. 25th.—Last Week but One of the wondrous Quadruple EMILE in the popular Drama of THE DOG OF THE PYLONIES. New and Splendid Scenes of the Arena, embracing the entire strength of the British and Foreign Professions; together with the Patriotic Drama of HARLEQUIN DON QUIXOTE; or SANCHE PANZA and DULCINEA DEL TOBOSO.—Doors open at 6; Commence at 7. Places and Tickets to be had at the Box-office from 11 to 5.—Equestrian Tuition Daily.—Stage-Manager, Mr. T. Thompson.

COLOSSEUM NOTICE.—PRICE OF ADMISSION

DURING THE HOLIDAYS.
Day Exhibition 2s.
Evening Exhibition 2s. 6d.
Children under 12 1s.
Stalactite Caverns 1s. extra.

THE DAY EXHIBITION consists of the Museum of Sculpture, Grand Picture of London, Alhambra Conservatories, Gorgeous Gothic Aviary, Classic Ruins, Swiss Cottage and Mont Blanc, with Mountain Torrent, &c. Open from 10 till 4.

EVENING.—The New and Extraordinary Panorama of LONDON BY NIGHT, Museum of Sculpture, Conservatories, and Gorgeous Gothic Aviary, &c., &c., brilliantly illuminated; Swiss Cottage, Mont Blanc, and Mountain Torrent, &c., represented by Moonlight. Open from 7 till half-past 10. A GRAND ORCHESTRAL ORGAN, on which the most admired Overtures are played from 2 till 4, and from 8 till half-past 10. The whole projected and designed by Mr. W. Bradwell.

The influx of Visitors during the Holidays since the Prices were reduced, is almost incredible, and may be reckoned at One Thousand Daily—it may now be termed an Exhibition for the Million.

Annual Tickets to admit to both Day and Evening Exhibition, One Guinea, may be had at the principal Music Sellers, and at the Colosseum.

WILLIS'S CONCERT ROOMS, KING-STREET, ST.

JAMES'S.—Mr. ADAMS has the honour to announce to his numerous Patrons and the Public in general, that his Tenth ANNUAL BALL will take place at the above Rooms, on MONDAY, the 2nd of FEBRUARY, 1846, when his celebrated Quadrille Band, patronised by the Royal Family, will be in attendance.—Gentlemen's Tickets, 12s. 6d.; Ladies' ditto, 7s. 6d.—(including refreshments.) Tickets to be had at Mr. Adams's Quadrille Office, 77, John-street, Fitzroy-square; Mr. Henderson's, 72, Newman-street, Oxford-street; and at the Rooms. M. C. Mr. Henderson. An early application for Tickets is particularly requested.

SACRED CONCERTS, CROSBY HALL, BISHOPSGATE.

Programme for Wednesday, January 28th.—"I have surely built thee an house," Boyce. Miss Rainforth and Mr. Lockey. "Join voices," Galliard. Miss Cubitt. "But Thou didst not leave!" Handel. Miss Rainforth and Messrs. Lockey and J. A. Novello. "On Thee each living soul awaits!" Haden. Mr. J. A. Novello, with chorus. "Have mercy, O Lord!" Mozart. Miss Cubitt and Mr. Lockey. "Children, pray!" Spohr. Mr. Lockey. "Thou hast ever been my shelter!" Cherubini. Miss Rainforth. "Let the bright seraphim!" Handel. Chorus. "Let their celestial concert!" Handel. Organ Solo. Mr. J. A. Novello. "Who dare control?" Aschmeyr. Miss Rainforth. "Come, Holy Spirit!" Kücken. Messrs. Lockey and J. A. Novello. "Blessed is every one!" Neukomma. Cornet: Sebastian Bach. Miss Cubitt. "Hope!" Freyer. Mr. Lockey. "Great is Jehovah!" Schubert. Misses Rainforth and Cubitt. "Sleep, baby, sleep!" Girschner. Chorus (A Dismission): Ann S. Mounsey. The Organ by Miss Mounsey. To commence at half-past seven and terminate before ten. Tickets 2s. 6d.

ETHIOPIAN SERENADERS.—THE THIRD CONCERT

will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on Monday Evening, January 26th, on which occasion will be introduced a variety of NEW SONGS, GLEES, CHORUSES, &c., &c. For particulars see Programme.—Admission 2s. Reserved Seats 3s.—Concert at 8 o'clock.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.

—REDUCED PRICE OF ADMISSION.—NOW OPEN, with a NEW and highly interesting EXHIBITION, representing the Castle and Town of Hildesberg (formerly the residence of the Electors Palatine of the Rhine), under the various aspects of Winter and Summer, Mid-day and Evening; and the exterior view of the Cathedral of Notre Dame, at Paris, as seen at Sunset and by Moonlight, and which has been so universally admired. Both Pictures are painted by Le Chevalier Renoux. Open from Ten till Four. Admittance to view both Pictures—Saloon, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.; as heretofore.

MR. CARTER, the LION KING, presents his compliments to the Nobility, Gentry, and the Public, who have so liberally patronised him on every occasion, and begs to inform them that neither himself, nor any of his Lions, Tigers, &c., will ever appear at the Marylebone Theatre, or any other Minor House in London. MR. CARTER'S MAMMOTH HOUSE will be exhibited at the EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly, every day, from 11 A.M. till 9 P.M., for a short time previous to his departure to America.



WRECK OF A SCHOONER ON THE SPIT, NEAR SPITHEAD.

WRECK OF A SCHOONER AT SPITHEAD.

An awful gale blew all last Monday night off Portsmouth, from the south-east when, according to the *Times* Correspondent, "the sea dashed over the walls of the town, deluging the habitations along shore." At about nine o'clock, the schooner *Ann and Elizabeth*, of Fowey, from Cardiff, laden with iron, for London, drove from her two anchors at Spithead, and struck on the Spit, where she thumped and sank. The captain and crew were in the rigging the whole of the night, until eight o'clock on Tuesday morning, when they were rescued, in a state of great exhaustion, by Reuben Maine, a Portsmouth waterman. Six hands (in-

cluding the captain) were thus saved from apparently inevitable death. Messrs. Garratt and Gibbon, the agents to Lloyd's, promptly rendered every assistance, and succeeded in saving the spars, sails, three small anchors, and other stores, but all the men's clothes and property have been lost. The captain was putting his desk, containing all his savings, into the long-boat, which was got out directly the vessel struck, when a heavy sea struck her and smashed her to pieces, together with the desk and its contents, which were lost. The schooner struck and sank in less than five minutes. The captain and men describe the night as truly awful.

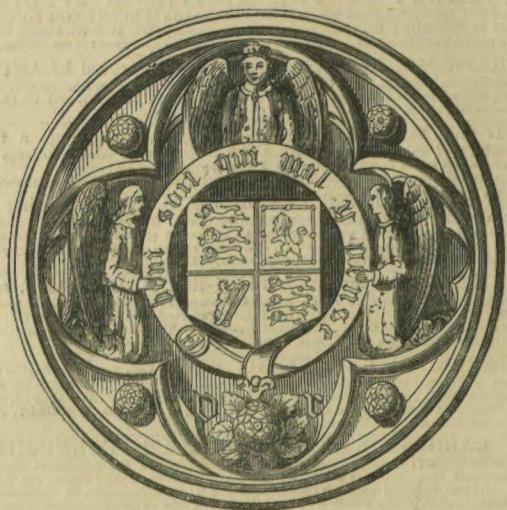
the gratification of stating that, from all I have been enabled to observe of Dr. LOCOCK'S Pulmonic Wafers, they have been of enormous service in the alleviation of severe asthmatic coughs, and that the PUBLIC SPEAKERS they have no doubt that when they become more generally known in the North of Ireland, they will be as highly esteemed as they are in other parts of the Kingdom.—J. D. MARSHALL, M.D.,

DR. LOCOCK'S WAFERS give instant relief, and a rapid Cure of Asthma, Consumptions, Coughs, Colics, and all Disorders of the Breatb and Lungs.

DR. LOCOCK'S PUBLIC SPEAKERS they are invaluable, as in a few hours they remove all hoarseness, and increase the power and flexibility of the voice. They have a most pleasant taste.

Prices, 1s. 1jd., 2s. 9d., and 1s. per box. Agents, DA SILVA and CO., Bride-lane, Fleet-street, London. Sold by all Medicine Vendors.

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.



QUATREFOIL FROM ARCH OF THE VICTORIA TOWER.

(Continued from page 50.)

north-west portion of it will be the part of the exterior most completely exposed to view, both in consequence of the very wide open space on the west side, between Great George-street and the Abbey (it being proposed to clear away St. Margaret's Church), and because both the north and west fronts, with the gateway between them, will come prominently into view from the end of Parliament-street." (*Companion to the Almanac, for 1846.*) Possibly, the plan not being definitively settled, may explain the little progress made in this front; since the area of the Star Chamber Court is not yet cleared of the old buildings.

The reader will scarcely understand our notes unless he refers to the Plan in 74 of our Journal. Presuming him to have this aid, we will enter *intra muros*, and glance at the state of the principal Courts and other grand features of the design. For this purpose, we return to the East Wing, forming the Speaker's Residence, at the end next Westminster Bridge; "which," says the critic just quoted, "though comparatively a very small portion of the whole, would of itself form a noble piece of architecture—a fine specimen of the style adopted;" and we may add, therefore, especially adapted for our illustration.

Entering by this Eastern front, we first reached the Speaker's Court, which is nearly completed. From thence we crossed a Corridor, to the Commons Court, of oblong form, also completed, or nearly so. Not so, however, the House of Commons, to the right in the Plan; though the flanking division galleries are nearly completed. The House of Commons is not roofed in.

From this point extends in a direct line of 600 feet southward, or parallel with the River Front, through the very centre of the entire Plan, that portion of the edifice appropriated to high ceremony, and to the two "Houses" themselves, viz., the House of Commons, the House Lobby, the Commons Corridor, the Great Central Hall, the Peers' Corridor, the House Lobby, the House of Peers, and the Victoria Gallery. The effect of this long vista will be truly magnificent, as we infer even from its present unfinished state. This line is flanked by five Courts on each side; those in the rear of the River Front being nearest completion.

The Central Octagon Hall, 60 feet in diameter, and 50 feet high, will be a splendid nucleus of this superb pile: two stories are completed: the doorways are magnificent. Externally, this portion will be a noble feature: it will be 365 feet high, or 15 feet higher than the Victoria Tower; "in character it will be totally different, for, whereas, the Victoria tower will be an unbroken, upright mass, this central one will be of tapering outline, and more like a spire divided into a series of stages, with pinnacles at their angles." This striking addition to the Plan has been rendered necessary by the adoption of Dr. Reid's system of ventilation and warming; the apparatus for which, including the Tower, will add an item of £65,000 to the general estimate: we hope the Doctor's plan may be as successful within, as the architectural acquisition promises to be externally.

Westward of the Central Hall will run St. Stephen's Hall, on the site of the ancient St. Stephen's Chapel, the crypt of which remains; the old superstructure has been taken down, but the new one has not yet

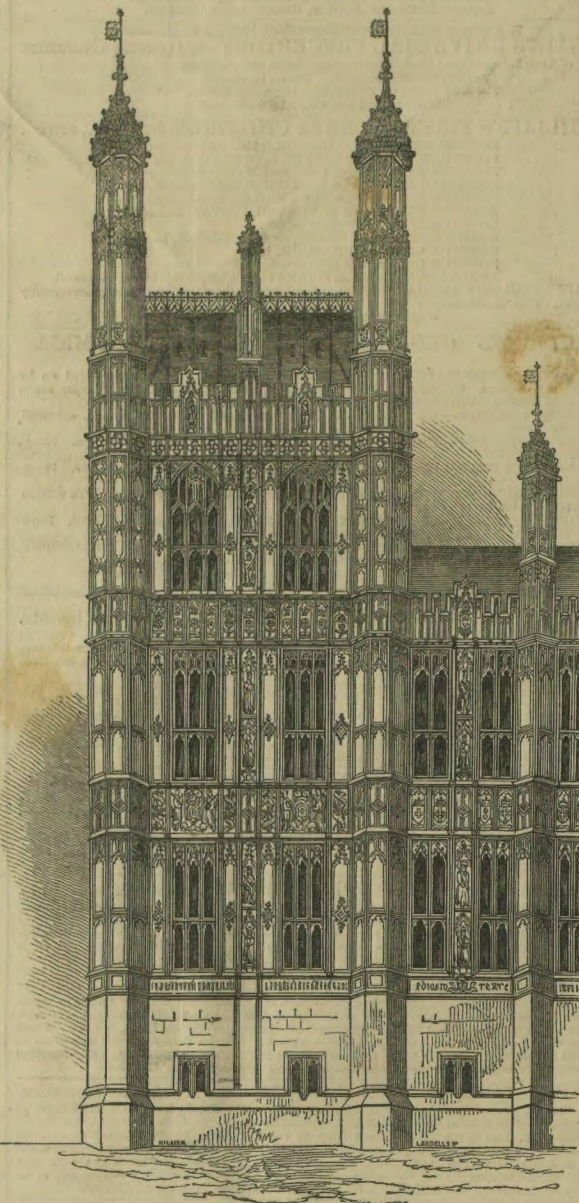


HERALDIC PANEL.

been commenced. This Hall will be extended by spacious flights of steps, and a porch opening to the south end of Westminster Hall, which is intended to serve as the principal public entrance and vestibule; and, as a sort of public gallery, adorned with statues and frescoes, independently of other decoration and enrichment. This is a grand and promising feature: it would be difficult to name a more interesting edifice in England than Westminster Hall, and the proposal for embellishing it with English character and native art, is highly commendable.

Having retraced our steps to the Central Hall, we advanced, by the Peers' Corridor, to the House Lobby, perhaps, destined to be one of the most admired apartments in the vast suite: the doorway leading into the House of Peers is superb: the elaborate beauty of the oak-leaf and acorn tracery mouldings, and the massiveness of the sculptured crowns, are strikingly effective: in short, all the details of this Lobby are exquisite.

We next reached the House of Peers, 93 by 45 feet, and 50 feet high. This is the most finished portion of the plan, a few of the Peers having pressed for its completion. The flooring is not yet laid; but the metal supports for the Peers' benches are placed: the walls are bare as high as



PORTION OF THE EAST WING.

the windows, of which there are six lofty and fine proportioned ones on each side, filled with plate-glass. Over the principal doorway is a triple arched gallery for ladies; and at the opposite or upper end of the

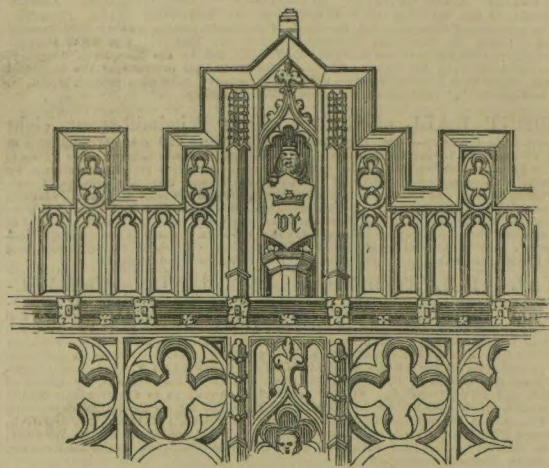


HERALDIC PANEL.

Chamber will be placed the Sovereign's throne. From midway up the walls to the roof is gorgeously gilt, and enriched with national insignia, and the ceiling is decorated in corresponding design. The latter is



UPPER WINDOW, EAST WING.



PARAPET, FROM EAST WING.

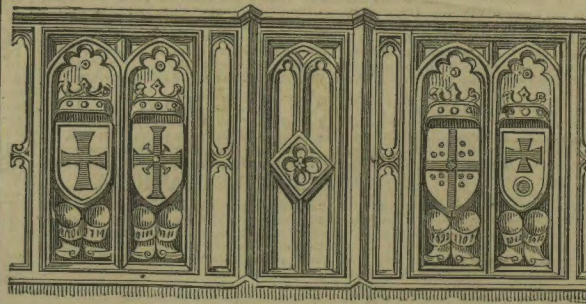
divided by moulding, with boldly-carved drops, into eighteen compartments, each sub-divided into a diamond centre and four others, filled with the insignia of Royalty, the rose, thistle, and shamrock; all exquisitely painted in gold-colour, blue, and red, and superbly gilt, by Crace, of Wigmore-street. Around the Chamber, too, are niches richly dignified in corresponding style, to be filled with statues. Already, with only the upper half of the decoration completed, we think the artist has been somewhat too prodigal of ornament; and, by artificial light, we fear the effect will be of overpowering richness. We saw a great quantity of pierced metal plates for the flooring, so as to admit tempered air.

[We should here mention that we have been describing only the principal floor of the Plan: many of the apartments beneath are massively vaulted; and, in passing over planks, and iron rafters, sometimes at the risk of stepping through a boss-hole, we were struck with the solidity and strength of the brickwork in the basement.]

[On leaving the House of Peers, its sumptuous decorations, polychromic and gilt, caused the unfinished state of the next portion—the Victoria Gallery—to appear more remarkable; though, probably, this is owing to some recent alterations in the Plan: one of the deviations from our printed Plan is the addition of a large and lofty bay-window looking into the Royal Court. The walls of this State Gallery are nearly completed, but it is not yet roofed in: its proportions are right—royal—130 by 45 feet, and 50 high. The Commissioners have recommended that in this Grand State Gallery, there be placed twelve Royal statues, including a statue of his Royal Highness Prince Albert. We can anticipate the magnificent effect of the passage of the Royal Procession through this Gallery into the Chamber of Peers.]

The two apartments at the extremity of the Victoria Gallery will be the Queen's Robbing-Room, and the Guard-Room: the latter will be ceiled with oak and wainscoted with the same to the height of about eight feet, above which it was intended to paint the walls with battle-scenes; but, by the Report of April last, statues were recommended for this apartment. The adjoining Robbing-Room will exhibit far greater splendour of embellishment: the ceiling formed into compartments by richly-carved mouldings, relieved with gilding and colours, and the flat surfaces diapered, heraldic devices, insignia, &c., on a gold ground; the walls in a similar style, with carved panel frames. The statues in this room are to be allegorical figures. As yet, however, the decoration of neither of these apartments has been commenced.

In the landing-places and Grand Staircase the sculpture was in progress; and the mallet and chisel resounded in our ears as we passed over planks down the grand staircase to the carriage-porch of the Victoria Tower, the south arch of which our artist has engraved. The Tower has been carried up as high as the crown of this arch, and the other, West. The proportions are truly gigantic, so as to admit the Royal state-carriage. The sculptural enrichments of these stupendous arches are proportionally grand: the roses in the mouldings are nearly 12 inches in diameter, and the crowns surmounting them are 14 inches in height and project nearly 15 inches from the moulding face. Again: the height of the Royal arms within the crown of the inner arch, we think, cannot be less than 10 feet. The unsculptured masses of stone upon pedestals flanking the main arch will be the Royal supporters. Our artist has also engraved one of the large quatrefoils, which fills a great portion of each spandrel.



HERALDIC PANEL.

In this glance we have omitted all notice of the Decorations, such as painted glass, wood-carving, &c., which are in progress elsewhere; our object being to afford the reader some idea of the present state of the Works at Westminster. We understand that upwards of 800 (of whom 400 are masons) men are employed here upon this great national work: the supply of stone is abundant, and of excellent quality, so that the progress cannot be more satisfactory.

The cost of the building will, unquestionably, be very great; but upon no consideration should be lost this fine opportunity of completing a structure in every way worthy of this great age and country.

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